A fixed point method to solve differential equation and Fredholm integral equation

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Abstract

The purpose of this research is to explore a fixed point method to solve a class of functional equations, \( Tu = f \), where \( T \) is a differential or an integral operator on a Sobolev space \( H^2(\Omega) \), where \( \Omega \) is an open set in \( \mathbb{R}^n \). First, \( T \) is converted into a sum of \( I + \lambda A \) with \( \lambda > 0 \), where \( A \) is a continuous linear operator and \( I \) is identity mapping. Then it is shown that \( T \) is a contraction on the prescribed Sobolev space and norm of \( A \) is estimated on the prescribed Sobolev space. By means of the theory of inverse operator of \( I + \lambda A \) and by choosing the appropriate value of \( \lambda \), the solution \( u \) of differential or integral operator is obtained. Some practical problems concerning the linear differential equation and Fredholm integral equation are solved by virtue of the fixed point method.

Keywords: Fixed point method, ODE and PDE, Fredholm integral equation, estimation.

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1. Introduction

Mathematical aspects of differential and integral equations with extensive applications have obtained a lot of consideration in various research areas, and the theory of differential and integral equations is also arising with basic mathematical tools such as fixed point theory, topology and functional analysis. There are several ways to solve differential equation by inverse differential operator [2, 4–13]. This paper derived a new method of fixed point to functional equation by means of norm operator \( A \) on the Sobolev space \( H^m(\Omega) \) by [1]. Fixed point methods in order to solve functional equation like \( Tu = f \) where \( T \) may be a differential and integral operator have been adapted by Browder [3] and Kangtunyakarn [12]. They created new notions and concept to handle functional equations especially based on monotone operator theory, fixed point theory, linear operator theory, and variational inequalities. There are a large number of generalizations for this interesting theorem, for example see [2, 7, 9, 11]. And then Kakde [11] by using the fixed point theory existence and uniqueness of solution on differential and integral equation, see also Kragler [13] who studied the method of inverse differential operator which is well established for
ordinary differential equations can be applied to certain class of partial differential equation. This paper is one of the results due to them and we have an improved estimate of derivatives and integrals by using differentiation of distributions and norm of functions on Sobolev space.

Here, we organized three parts in this study. The first part concerns estimation of norm of linear operator on the prescribed Sobolev space. The second part involves solving linear differential equations by means of fixed point method. The third regards solving integral equation of Fredholm type. Existence and Uniqueness of fixed point is guaranteed by Banach fixed point principle and finding the fixed point is the required solution of the prescribed functional equation.

2. Preliminaries

Definition 2.1 ([1]). Let $H^m(\Omega) = \{ \phi \in L^2(\Omega) | D^\alpha \phi \in L^2(\Omega) \text{ for all } \alpha : |\alpha| \leq m \}$, where $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots, \alpha_n) \in (\mathbb{N} \cup \{0\})^n$ with $|\alpha| = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \cdots + \alpha_n$, $\Omega$ is an open set in $\mathbb{R}^n$, and $D^\alpha = \frac{\partial^{\alpha_1}}{\partial x_1^{\alpha_1}} \cdots \frac{\partial^{\alpha_n}}{\partial x_n^{\alpha_n}}$. Then $H^m(\Omega)$ is a Hilbert space under the norm defined by

$$||\phi||_{m,2} = \left( \sum_{|\alpha| \leq m} ||D^\alpha \phi||^2_{L^2} \right)^{1/2}.$$

By the definition, $||\phi||^2_{m,2} = \left( \sum_{|\alpha| \leq m} ||D^\alpha \phi||^2_{L^2} \right)$ and hence

$$||\phi||_{m,2} \geq ||D^\alpha \phi||_{L^2}, \quad \forall \alpha : |\alpha| \leq m.$$

Theorem 2.2. Let $\phi \in H^m(\Omega)$, $u \in D'(\Omega)$. Then $||D^\alpha || \leq 1$, $\forall \alpha : |\alpha| \leq m$.

Proof. By differentiation of distribution, we have

$$\langle D^\alpha u, \phi \rangle = (-1)^{|\alpha|} \langle u, D^\alpha \phi \rangle.$$

Then $|\langle D^\alpha u, \phi \rangle| \leq ||u|| \cdot ||D^\alpha \phi||$, $\forall \phi \in H^m(\Omega)$.

Therefore, we have $||D^\alpha u|| \leq ||u|| \cdot ||\phi||_{m,2}$. In particular, $||D^\alpha || \leq 1$ and $||D^{2\alpha} || \leq 1$.

Theorem 2.3. Let $A$ be a continuous linear operator defined on $H^m(\Omega)$ and $\lambda > 0$, $f \in H^m(\Omega)$. Suppose the operator $T$ defined by $Tu = \lambda Au + f$. Then $T$ is a contraction if $||\lambda|| \cdot ||A|| < 1$.

Proof. For any $u, v \in H^m(\Omega)$,

$$||Tu -Tv|| = ||\lambda Au - \lambda Av|| \leq ||\lambda|| \cdot ||A|| \cdot ||u - v||.$$

Since $||\lambda|| \cdot ||A|| < 1$, $T$ is a contraction.

Theorem 2.4. Let $T$ be as in Theorem 2.3. Then $Tu = u$ if and only if $(1 - \lambda A)u = f$, $\forall u \in H^m(\Omega)$.

Proof. Let $Tu = u$. Then

$$\lambda Au + f = u.$$

So,

$$Iu - \lambda Au = f, \quad (I - \lambda A)u = f.$$

Its converse is clear. By the result in Theorem 2.3, the fixed point $u$ of $T$ is a solution of the functional equation $(I - \lambda A)u = f$. Moreover, since $||\lambda|| \cdot ||A|| < 1$ is invertible and also

$$u = (I - \lambda A)^{-1} f = f + \lambda Af + \lambda^2 A^2 f + \cdots + \lambda^n A^n f + \cdots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n A^n f,$$

where $A^0 = I$. □
3. Application to ordinary differential equation

3.1. Solution of ordinary differential equation

Consider \( a \frac{d^2u}{dx^2} + b \frac{du}{dx} + cu = f, \ c \neq 0 \), then by Theorem 2.2, we have obtained

\[
\| \frac{d}{dx} \| \leq 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \| \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \| \leq 1.
\]

So,

\[
\| a \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \| \leq |a| \quad \text{and} \quad \| b \frac{d}{dx} \| \leq |b|
\]

and hence

\[
\| a \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + b \frac{d}{dx} \| \leq 2 \max(|a|, |b|).
\]

Let \( Au = -\frac{a}{c} \frac{d^2u}{dx^2} - \frac{b}{c} \frac{du}{dx} \), define the operator \( T \) by

\[
Tu = Au + \frac{f}{c}.
\]

Since,

\[
a \frac{d^2u}{dx^2} + b \frac{du}{dx} + cu = f,
\]

\[
-\frac{a}{c} \frac{d^2u}{dx^2} - \frac{b}{c} \frac{du}{dx} = u - \frac{f}{c},
\]

\( (or) \)

\[
Au + \frac{f}{c} = u.
\]

So, we obtain the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.1.** Let \( Bu = a \frac{d^2u}{dx^2} + b \frac{du}{dx} + cu = f, \ c \neq 0, \ \max(|a|, |b|) < \frac{1}{2}|c| \). Then \( Bu = f \) is equivalent to \( Tu = u \) and hence \( Bu = f \) has a unique solution \( u \).

**Proof.** Let \( Tu = Au + \frac{f}{c} \) where \( A \) is prescribed above.

\[
\| A \| = \| -\frac{a}{c} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} - \frac{b}{c} \frac{d}{dx} \| \leq \| a \| + \| b \| \leq \frac{2}{|c|} \max(|a|, |b|) < \frac{1}{2} |c| = 1,
\]

for \( \max(|a|, |b|) < \frac{1}{2}|c| \). Then \( \| Tu - Tv \| = \| Au - Av \| \leq \| A \| \| u - v \| \). Since \( \| A \| < 1 \), \( T \) is a contraction on \( H^2(\Omega) \), there is a unique fixed point \( u \in H^2(\Omega) \) by Banach fixed point theorem. Therefore, \( u \) is a unique solution of \( Tu = f \) and

\[
u = \frac{1}{c}(I-A)^{-1}f = \frac{1}{c}(f + A^2f + \cdots + A^nf + \cdots)
\]

**Example 3.2.** Consider \( a \frac{d^2u}{dx^2} + b \frac{du}{dx} + cu = f \), where \( a = 0.1, \ b = 0.3, \ c = 4, \) and \( f(x) = x^2 \). Then \( 2 \max(|a|, |b|) = \frac{0.3}{2} = 0.15 < 1 \). So, we obtain the solution

\[
u = \frac{1}{c}(I-A)^{-1}f = \frac{1}{c}[I + A + A^2 + \cdots]f = \frac{1}{c}[f + Af + A^2f + \cdots]
\]

\[
= \frac{1}{4}(x^2 + (-\frac{1}{20} - \frac{3}{20}x) + \frac{9}{800})
\]

\[
= \frac{1}{4}(x^2 + \frac{3}{20}x) + \frac{9}{800} = \frac{1}{4}x^2 - \frac{3}{80}x - \frac{31}{3200}.
\]
When \( \| A \| = 1 \), we may still use the \((1 + A)^{-1}\) method, provide the equation is stable, i.e., \( u_n \) is a solution of the equation \( T_n u = f \), \( T_n \to T \) and \( u_n \to u_\infty \) implies that \( u_\infty \) is a solution of \( T u = f \). In that case, when \( \| A \| = 1 \), we may consider the equation \((1 + A_n) u = f\) where \( A_n = \frac{n}{n+1} A \). Then \( \| A \| < 1 \) and \( A n \to A \). Suppose \( u_n \) is a solution of \( u + A_n u = f \), \( u_n \to u_\infty \). Then \( u_\infty \) is a solution of \( u + Au = f \).

As a particular problem, consider \( \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} + 2u(x) = x - x^3 + x^4 \) in \( H^1(a, b) \). Now \( \| \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \| \leq 1 \). Hence we consider \( \frac{n}{n+1} \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} + 2u(x) = x - x^3 + x^4 \) in stead of the original equation. In the new equation,

\[
\| \frac{n}{n+1} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \| \leq \frac{n}{n+1} < 1.
\]

Hence we use \((1 + A_n)^{-1}\), where \( A_n = \frac{n}{n+1} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \). Here,

\[
u_n(x) = (1 + \frac{n}{n+1} \frac{d}{dx})^{-1}(x - x^3 + x^4) = (1 - \frac{n}{n+1} \frac{d}{dx} + \frac{n^2}{(n+1)^2} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + \cdots)(x - x^3 + x^4),
\]

\[
u_n(x) = x - x^3 + x^4 + \frac{n}{n+1}(-6x + 12x^2) + \frac{n^2}{(n+1)^2}(24).
\]

Since \( \lim_{n \to \infty} u_n(x) = u(x) \), \( u(x) = 12 + \frac{5}{2} x - 6x^2 - \frac{3}{2} x^3 + \frac{1}{4} x^4 \) is a solution of given equation.

Example 3.3. Let us consider another equation. We know \( \| \frac{d}{dx} \| \leq 1 \) but cannot yet establish that it is less than 1. So we cannot use \((1 + A)^{-1}\) method directly. If we use it directly, we obtain by \( y = (1 + \frac{d}{dx})^{-1} \sin x \), \( y = \sin x + \cos x - \sin x - \cos x + \sin x + \cos x - \sin x - \cos x + \cdots \), which does not converge. We may consider \( \frac{n}{n+1} y(x) + 2y(x) = \sin x \). Since \( \| \frac{n}{n+1} \frac{d}{dx} \| \leq \frac{n}{n+1} < 1 \), we have

\[
y_n(x) = (1 + \frac{n}{n+1} \frac{d}{dx})^{-1} \sin x = \frac{\sin x}{1 + \frac{n}{n+1} \frac{d}{dx}} - \frac{n}{n+1} \frac{d}{dx} \sin x.
\]

\( \lim_{n \to \infty} y_n(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sin x - \frac{1}{4} \cos x \), which is a solution of the given equation we considered.

Next, we consider the partial differential operator \( T \) defined by

\[ T u = (a_{00} + a_{10} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + a_{01} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} + a_{11} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} + a_{20} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1^2} + a_{02} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_2^2}) u = f, a_{00} \neq 0. \]

This may be written in the form

\[
(I + \frac{a_{10}}{a_{00}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + \frac{a_{01}}{a_{00}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} + \frac{a_{11}}{a_{00}} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} + \frac{a_{20}}{a_{00}} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{a_{02}}{a_{00}} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_2^2}) u = f.
\]

Let \( A = I + \frac{a_{10}}{a_{00}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + \frac{a_{01}}{a_{00}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} + \frac{a_{11}}{a_{00}} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} + \frac{a_{20}}{a_{00}} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{a_{02}}{a_{00}} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_2^2} \), under the condition \( \| A \| < 1 \), we obtain

\[
u = \frac{1}{a_{00}} (I + A)^{-1} f = \frac{1}{a_{00}} (I - A + A^2 - A^3 + \cdots) f = \frac{1}{a_{00}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n A^n f,
\]
where $A^0 = I$. In particular, consider $k\Delta u + u = f$ with $|k| < \frac{1}{2}$, $\Delta u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_2^2}$, $u \in H^1(\Omega)$ and $f \in H^1(\Omega)$, $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ is open. Here, $T = I + k\Delta u$ and $\|k\Delta\| < 1$. Then

$$u = (I + k\Delta)^{-1}f = -k\Delta f + k^2\Delta^2 f - k^3\Delta^3 f + \cdots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n k^n \Delta^n f,$$

where $\Delta^0 f = f$.

**Example 3.4.** Consider $\frac{1}{2}\Delta u + u(x) = x_1^2 x_2$, $x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$. Then

$$u(x) = (I + \frac{1}{2}\Delta)^{-1}(x_1^2 x_2) = x_1^2 x_2 - 2x_1 x_2 + 4x_1^2 x_2.$$

### 4. Application to Fredholm integral equations

#### 4.1. Fredholm integral equation

Consider $u(x) + \lambda \int_a^b K(x, y)u(y)dy = f(x)$, where $(Ku)(x) = \int_a^b K(x, y)u(y)dy$. Then this integral equation can be written as the following functional equation

$$u + \lambda Ku = f, \quad u = f - \lambda Ku.$$

Let $Bu = f - \lambda Ku$. Then $\|Bu - By\| = \|\lambda K(u - v)\| \|\lambda K\| u - v$ for $|\lambda| \|K\| < 1$, $B$ is a contraction and fixed point of $B$ gives a unique solution of $Tu = f$ where $T$ is defined by $Tu = u + \lambda Ku$.

Since the solution of this integral equation depends on our knowledge of operator $K$, we shall now state a few results about $K$ which will be used $\|K\|$ in respective function spaces as follows.

**Proposition 4.1 ([8]).**

1. Let $X = C([a, b])$ for $-\infty < a < b < \infty$. Suppose $m = \sup_{x \in [a, b]} \int_a^b K(x, y)dy < \infty$, then $K \in L(X, X)$ and $\|K\| \leq m$.
2. Let $X = L((a, b])$ for $-\infty < a < b < \infty$. Suppose $n = \int_a^b \sup_{x \in [a, b]} |K(x, y)|dy < \infty$, then $K \in L(X, X)$ and $\|K\| \leq n$.
3. Let $1 < p, p', q < \infty$ with $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p'} = \frac{1}{q} + \frac{1}{q'} = 1$. Let $r = \max\{p', q\}$ and $\frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{r'} = 1$. Suppose $M = \int_a^b \int_a^b |K(x, y)|^r dxdy < \infty$. Then $K \in L^r([a, b]), L^q([a, b])$, and $\|K\| \leq \|K\| \leq N \frac{1}{r}$, where $N = (b - a)^{\alpha + \beta}$, $\alpha = \frac{p - 1}{p' r'}, \beta = \frac{q - 1}{q r}$. Obviously, if $p = q = r = r' = 2$, then we have $\int_a^b \int_a^b |K(x, y)|^2 dxdy < \infty$, $\|K\| \leq (\int_a^b \int_a^b |K(x, y)|^2 dxdy)^{\frac{1}{2}}$. Since $\alpha = \frac{2}{2x} - \frac{2}{2x} = \frac{2}{2x}$, $\beta = \frac{2}{2x}$, and $N = (b - a)^{0} = 0 + 1$.
4. Let $X = L^\infty([a, b])$ for $-\infty < a < b < \infty$. Suppose $m = \int_a^b \int_a^b |K(x, y)|^2 dxdy$, then $K \in L(X, Y)$ and $\|K\| \leq m$ for $Y = L^r([a, b])$.

**Example 4.2.** Consider the integral equation $u(x) + \lambda \int_a^b (3x + 2y)^2 u(y)dy = 2 - x^2$. We shall evaluate the range of $\lambda$ for the fixed point method is applicable in the spaces $C([0, 1])$, $L^1([0, 1])$, $L^2([0, 1])$, and $L^\infty([0, 1])$.

(i) When we consider in $C([0, 1])$,

$$\|\lambda K\| = |\lambda| \int_0^1 \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} (3x + 2y)^2 dx = \frac{49}{3} |\lambda|.$$ 

Then $\|\lambda K\| < 1$ if $|\lambda| < \frac{3}{49} = 0.06122$.

(ii) In $L^1([0, 1])$,

$$\|\lambda K\| \leq |\lambda| \int_0^1 \sup_{y \in [0, 1]} (3x + 2y)^2 dy = 13|\lambda|.$$ 

Then $\|\lambda K\| < 1$ if $|\lambda| < \frac{1}{13} = 0.0769$. 
(iii) In $L^2([0,1])$, 
$$
\| \lambda K \| \leq |\lambda| I([0,1]) \int_0^1 \int_0^1 (3x+2y)^4 dx dy = \sqrt{82.4} |\lambda|.
$$
Then $\| \lambda K \| < 1$ if $|\lambda| < \frac{1}{\sqrt{82.4}} = 0.1101$.

(iv) In $L^\infty([0,1])$, 
$$
\| \lambda K \| \leq \sup_{x \in [0,1]} \int_0^1 (3x + 2y)^2 dy = \frac{49}{3} |\lambda|.
$$
Then $\| \lambda K \| < 1$ if $|\lambda| < \frac{3}{49} = 0.06122$.

Next, we consider the integral equation $(I + \lambda K)u = f$, where $K \in L(X,X)$, $X = L^2([0,1])$. If $\| \lambda \| \| K \| < 1$, then $(I + \lambda K)^{-1}$ exists and hence $u = (I + \lambda K)^{-1}f = \sum_{n=0}^\infty (-1)^n (\lambda^n f)$ is a solution.

**Example 4.3.** Consider $u(x) + \frac{1}{10} \int_0^1 (2x + 3y)^2 u(y) dy = 5x + 1$. Now $\| K \| \leq \sqrt{82.4}$ and then $\| \lambda \| \| K \| < 1$.

$$(Kf)(x) = \int_0^1 (2x + 3y)^2 (5y + 1) dy = 14x^2 + 26x + 14.25,$$

$$(K^2f)(x) = \int_0^1 (2x + 3y)^2 (14y^2 + 26y + 14.25) dy = 1139.022x^2 + 2067.71x + 1130.031,$$

$$
\vdots
$$

$u(x) = -1.515x^2 + 2.181x - 0.546 + \cdots.$

**Example 4.4.** Consider $u(x) + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 (x + y) u(y) dy = 2 - x^2$. Now $\| K \| < \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$ and hence $\| \lambda K \| < 1$. Then $u = (I + \lambda K)^{-1}f$,

$$(Kf)(x) = \int_0^1 (x + y)(2 - y^2) dy = 1.667x + 0.75,$$

$$(K^2f)(x) = \int_0^1 (x + y)(2 - (1.667y + 0.75)^2) dy = -0.73875x - 0.8095,$$

$$(K^3f)(x) = \int_0^1 (x + y)(2 - (1.5835y + 0.93066)^2) dy = 0.9286x + 0.1369,$$

$$
\vdots
$$

$u(x) = 0.46 - 1.3275x - x^2 + \cdots.$

The convergence of this series has been guaranteed by the Banach fixed point theorem since the operator is a contraction and space $\mathbb{R}$ is a complete metric space.

**5. Conclusion**

A way to solve functional equation has been presented by using upper bounds of norm of operators $T$ which may be a linear differential or a linear partial differential or a Fredholm integral operator on an open subset of Hilbert Sobolev space by transforming $T = I + \lambda A$ where $\| A \| < 1$. The inverse operator method has been used in order to obtain required solution of $Tu = f$. By using the fixed point theorem, we obtain the existence and uniqueness solution from the results of the prescribed functional equations.
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References