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# Homotopy Perturbation Padé Technique for Constructing Approximate and Exact Solutions of Boussinesq Equations

Mohamed M. Mousa<sup>1,2</sup> and Aidarkhan Kaltayev<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Basic Science, Benha High Institute of Technology Benha University, 13512, Egypt dr.eng.mmmm@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup> Department of Mechanics, al-Farabi Kazakh National University 39/47 Masanchi 480012, Almaty, Kazakhstan

## Abstract

Based on the homotopy perturbation method (HPM) and Padé approximants (PA), explicit approximate and exact solutions are obtained for cubic Boussinesq equations. HPM is used for analytic treatment to those equations and PA for increasing the convergence region of the HPM analytical solution. The results reveal that the HPM with the enhancement of PA is a very effective, convenient and quite accurate to such types of partial differential equations.

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# **1. Introduction**

The homotopy perturbation method (HPM) was firstly proposed by He [1–4]. It deforms a difficult problem into simple problems that can easily be solved. The HPM, based on a series approximation, is one among the newly developed analytical methods for strongly nonlinear problems and has been proven successful and efficiency in solving a wide class of nonlinear differential equations (NLDEs), various physics and engineering problems [5–7]. But, it's

known that convergence region of the obtained truncated series solution is limited and, in great, need enhancements to enlarge region of convergence.

It's well-known that Padé approximations (PA) [8] have the advantage of manipulating the polynomial approximation into a rational function of polynomials. This manipulation provides us with more information about the mathematical behavior of the solution. So, application of PA to the truncated series solution obtained by HPM will be an effective tool to increase the region of convergence and accuracy of the approximate solution even for large values of *t*. In order to obtain Padé approximants of different orders [N/M], Maple or Mathematica can be efficiently used.

In this paper, we are interested in applying the HPM with Padé technique to obtain approximate analytical and exact solutions of the cubic Boussinesq and modified Boussinesq equations. Comparison of the present solution is made with the exact one and excellent agreement is noted.

# 2. Basic idea of He's homotopy perturbation method

To illustrate the basic ideas of this method, we consider the following nonlinear differential equation [1]:

$$A(u) - f(r) = 0, \quad r \in \Omega, \tag{1}$$

with the boundary conditions

$$B\left(u,\partial u/\partial n\right) = 0, \quad r \in \Gamma,$$
(2)

where A is a general differential operator, B a boundary operator, f(r) a known analytical function and  $\Gamma$  is the boundary of the domain  $\Omega$ .

Generally speaking, the operator A can be divided into two parts which are L and N, where L is linear, but N is nonlinear. Therefore, (1) can be rewritten as follows:

$$L(u) + N(u) - f(r) = 0.$$
 (3)

By the homotopy technique, we construct a homotopy  $V(r,p): \Omega \times [0,1] \rightarrow \square$  which satisfies:

$$H(V,p) = (1-p)[L(V) - L(u_0)] + p[A(V) - f(r)] = 0, \quad p \in [0,1], r \in \Omega, \quad (4)$$

where  $p \in [0,1]$  is an embedding parameter,  $u_0$  is an initial approximation of (1), which satisfies the boundary conditions.

According to the HPM, we assume that the solution of (4) can be written as a power series in p:

$$V = V_0 + p V_1 + p^2 V_2 + \dots$$
 (5)

Setting p = 1 results in the approximate series solution of (1):

$$u = \lim_{p \to 1} V = V_0 + V_1 + V_2 + \dots$$
(6)

The series in (6) is convergent for most cases, and the rate of convergence depends on the nonlinear operator A(V) [1].

# **3.** Applications

## 3.1 Modified Boussinesq equation

Firstly, consider the following general equation [9, 10],

$$u_{tt} + \alpha u_{xxt} + \beta u_{xxxx} + \gamma \left( u^n \right)_{xx} = 0, \tag{7}$$

where  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$  and n are real constants.

This equation is called the high-order modified Boussinesq equation with the damping term  $u_{xxt}$ . It appears in several domains of mathematics and physics.

When  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $\beta = -1$ ,  $\gamma = 1$  and n = 3, equation (7) becomes the cubic modified

Boussinesq equation which was presented in the famous Fermi–Pasta–Ulam problem and is used to investigate the behavior of systems which are primarily linear but a nonlinearity is introduced as a perturbation. It arises in other physical applications as well.

## Example 1.

Consider the cubic modified Boussinesq equation,

$$u_{tt} + u_{xxt} + \frac{2}{9}u_{xxxx} - (u^3)_{xx} = 0, \quad u(x,0) = 1 + \tanh\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right), \quad u_t(x,0) = -3\operatorname{sech}^2\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right).$$
(8)

According to (4), a homotopy  $V(x,t,p): \Omega \times [0,1] \rightarrow \Box$  can be written as

$$(1-p)(V_{tt} - u_{0,tt}) + p(V_{tt} + V_{xxt} + \frac{2}{9}V_{xxxx} - (V^{3})_{xx}) = 0, \quad p \in [0,1], \ (x,t) \in \Omega, \quad (9)$$
where  $u_{tt} = u_{0,tt}$  ( $u_{t}$  ( $u_{t}$  0),  $u_{t}$  ( $u_{t}$  0), and  $u_{tt} = \frac{\partial^{2}u_{0}}{\partial^{2}u_{0}}$ 

where  $u_0 = u_0(x,t) = V_0(x,0) = u(x,0)$  and  $u_{0,u} = \frac{\partial u_0}{\partial t^2}$ .

One can now try to obtain a solution of (19) in the form of:

$$V(x,t) = V_0(x,t) + p V_1(x,t) + p^2 V_2(x,t) + \dots$$
(10)

Substituting (10) into (9) and equating terms of the identical powers of p yields  $p^{0}$ :  $V_{0,tt} = 0$ ,  $p^{1}$ :  $V_{1,tt} + V_{0,xxt} + \frac{2}{2}V_{0,xxx} - 3(V_{0})^{2}V_{0,xx} - 6V_{0}(V_{0,x})^{2} = 0$ ,

$$p^{2}: V_{2,tt} + V_{1,xxt} + \frac{2}{9}V_{1,xxx} - 3(V_{0})^{2}V_{1,xx} - 6V_{0}V_{1}V_{0,xx} - 6V_{1}(V_{0,x})^{2} - 12V_{0}V_{0,x}V_{1,x} = 0,$$
  

$$\vdots, \qquad (11)$$

with the following initial conditions:

$$V_{i}(x,0) = \begin{cases} 1 + \tanh\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right), & i = 0, \\ 0, & i = 1, 2, ..., \end{cases} \quad V_{i,i}(x,0) = \begin{cases} -3\operatorname{sech}^{2}\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right), & i = 0, \\ 0, & i = 1, 2, ... \end{cases}$$
(12)

Solving the system (11), with the conditions (12) gives (2, 2)

$$V_{0}(x,t) = 1 + \tanh\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) - 3t \operatorname{sech}^{2}\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right),$$

$$V_{1}(x,t) = -9t^{2} \tanh\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) \operatorname{sech}^{2}\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) - \frac{9}{40}t^{3} \{80 \operatorname{sech}^{2}\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) - 120 \operatorname{sech}^{4}\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right)$$

$$+ 120 \tanh\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) \operatorname{sech}^{2}\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) - 360 \tanh\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) \operatorname{sech}^{4}\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right)\} - \frac{9}{40}t^{4} \{450 \operatorname{sech}^{6}\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right)\}$$

$$- 360 \operatorname{sech}^{4}\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) + 675 \tanh\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) \operatorname{sech}^{6}\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) - 360 \tanh\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) \operatorname{sech}^{4}\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right)\}$$

$$- \frac{9}{40}t^{5} \{486 \operatorname{sech}^{6}\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) - 567 \operatorname{sech}^{8}\},$$

$$\vdots \qquad (13)$$

In this manner the other components can be easily obtained. For this example, we continued solving (11) for  $V_n$ , n=0,1,... until  $V_2$  and hence obtained the two-term approximation  $\varphi_2 = V_0 + V_1 + V_2$ .

With the aid of Maple software, the rational approximations [N/M] can be obtained by applying PA with respect to *t* to the obtained series solution  $\varphi_2$  such that  $N+M \leq 9$  (highest power of the variable *t* in  $\varphi_2$ ).

In order to evaluate the reliability and accuracy of the HPM with the enhancement of PA, here we mention that (8) has an exact solution,

$$u(x,t) = 1 + \tanh\left(\frac{3}{2}x - 3t\right). \tag{14}$$

Some numerical results for the absolute error between the exact solution u and series solution  $\varphi_2$  are presented in Tables 1 and for the absolute error between u and Padé approximation [2/6] are presented in Tables 2. Table 1

$t_i \setminus x_i$	0.0	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0
0.1	0.2372496E-3	0.1051763 E-2	0.826206 E-3	0.47619 E-4	0.35346 E-4
0.3	0.6138779 E-2	0.1028504349	0.3866883 E-1	0.2691527 E-2	0.631936 E-3
0.5	0.2827709 E-1	0.2138252261	0.7879245 E-1	0.5840657 E-1	0.8879789 E-1
0.7	3.585856474	3.486293464	0.6280186210	0.3874946876	0.76612254
0.9	43.72139536	29.68321428	4.835834768	1.603806045	1.2539338915
1.1	292.5846898	144.0809202	18.59432219	4.466162969	1.361639355

Results obtained for the absolute error  $|u - \varphi_2|$  for selected values of x and t

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## Table 2

Results obtained for the absolute error |u - [2/6]| between the exact solution and the one obtained by application of a PA [2/6] to HPM series solution  $\varphi_2$ 

$t_i \setminus x_i$	0.0	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0
0.1	0.2434446 E-3	0.1058608 E-2	0.825470 E-3	0.47597 E-4	0.353445 E-4
0.3	0.6522647 E-2	0.5470101 E-1	0.356969 E-1	0.794166 E-3	0.1181480 E-2
0.5	0.4220276 E-2	0.2137442037	0.638468 E-1	0.180639 E-2	0.5222480 E-2
0.7	0.1578839 E-2	0.3489404687	0.145551 E-1	0.670999 E-2	0.2724002 E-1
0.9	0.3238113 E-2	0.6899567854	0.697368 E-1	0.848258 E-1	0.2258921 E-2
1.1	0.2763887E-2	0.4006148959	0.697437 E-1	0.135511 E-1	0.1344292 E-1



Figure 1: The surfaces generated from the HPM result  $\varphi_2(x,t)$ , shown in (a), in comparison with the exact solution, shown in (b), for the cubic modified Boussinesq equation in the domain  $0 \le t \le 0.5$  and  $-10 \le x \le 10$ 

The behavior of the solutions  $\varphi_2$  and the exact solution illustrated in Figs. 1(a), 1(b), 2(b) and 3(b) shows that the HPM solution  $\varphi_2$  is an accurate approximation only in the interval  $0 \le t \le 0.5$  but diverges for values of t > 0.5. We can conclude the same result from the numerical results of the absolute error between the exact solution and  $\varphi_2$  shown in Table 1 as well. Figs. 2(b) and 3(b) show the deterioration in the HPM solution  $\varphi_2$  beyond the interval of convergence. So, PA would be needed to increase the convergence domain region.



Figure 2: Results for x = 1, obtained for the exact solution (solid line) and the ones obtained by applying PA [2/4] and [2/7] to  $\varphi_2$ , shown in (a), in comparison with HPM result  $\varphi_2$ , shown in (b), for the cubic modified Boussinesq equation



Figure 3: Results for x = 2, obtained for the exact solution (solid line) and the ones obtained by applying PA [2/6] and [2/7] to  $\varphi_2$ , shown in (a), in comparison with HPM result  $\varphi_2$ , shown in (b), for the cubic modified Boussinesq equation

It's seen in Table 2, Figs. 2(a) and 3(a), that the application of PA, for example [2/4], [2/6] and [2/7], to the truncated series solution  $\varphi_2$  greatly improves the results of the HPM and increases approximate solution accuracy and convergence domain region.

## 3.2 Cubic Boussinesq equation

A well-known model of nonlinear dispersive waves which was proposed by Boussinesq is formulated in the form

$$u_{tt} = u_{xx} + 3(u^3)_{xx} + u_{xxxx}, \qquad L_0 \le x \le L_1$$
(15)

The Boussinesq equation (15) describes motions of long waves in shallow water under gravity and in a one-dimensional nonlinear lattice [11].

#### Example 2.

Consider the cubic Boussinesq equation [12]

$$u_{tt} - u_{xx} - u_{xxxx} + 2(u^3)_{xx} = 0, \quad u(x,0) = \frac{1}{x}, \quad u_t(x,0) = -\frac{1}{x^2}.$$
 (16)

The homotopy of (16)  $V(x,t,p): \Omega \times [0,1] \rightarrow \Box$  satisfies

$$(1-p)(V_{tt}-u_{0,tt}) + p(V_{tt}-V_{xx}-V_{xxxx}+2(V^3)_{xx}) = 0, \quad p \in [0,1], \quad (x,t) \in \Omega.$$
(17)

Suppose the solution of (17) to be in the following form,

$$V(x,t) = V_0(x,t) + p V_1(x,t) + p^2 V_2(x,t) + \dots$$
(18)

Substituting (18) into (17), and equating the terms with the identical powers of p yields  $p^0 := V = -0$ 

$$p^{*}: \quad V_{0,u} = 0,$$

$$p^{1}: \quad V_{1,u} - V_{0,xx} - V_{0,xxxx} + 6(V_{0})^{2}V_{0,xx} + 12V_{0}(V_{0,x})^{2} = 0,$$

$$p^{2}: \quad V_{2,u} - V_{1,xx} - V_{1,xxxx} + 6(V_{0})^{2}V_{1,xx} + 12V_{0}V_{1}V_{0,xx} + 12V_{1}(V_{0,x})^{2} + 24V_{0}V_{0,x}V_{1,x} = 0,$$

$$\vdots, \qquad (19)$$

with the following initial conditions:

$$V_{i}(x,0) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{x}, & i = 0, \\ 0, & i = 1, 2, ..., \end{cases} \qquad V_{i,i}(x,0) = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{x^{2}}, & i = 0, \\ 0, & i = 1, 2, ... \end{cases}$$
(20)

Solving the system (19) corresponding to the initial conditions (20) yields

$$V_{0}(x,t) = \frac{1}{x} - \frac{t}{x^{2}},$$

$$V_{1}(x,t) = \frac{t^{2}}{x^{3}} - \frac{t^{3}}{x^{4}} - \frac{15t^{4}}{x^{7}} + \frac{21t^{5}}{5x^{8}},$$

$$V_{2}(x,t) = \frac{t^{4}}{x^{5}} - \frac{t^{5}}{x^{6}} + \frac{15t^{4}}{x^{7}} - \frac{21t^{5}}{5x^{8}} - \frac{308t^{6}}{5x^{9}} - \frac{2250t^{6}}{x^{11}} + \frac{612t^{7}}{35x^{10}} + \frac{1782t^{7}}{7x^{12}} - \frac{11583t^{8}}{35x^{13}} + \frac{273t^{9}}{5x^{14}},$$

$$\vdots.$$
(21)

It's noticed that each  $V_n$  contains terms that have similar terms in  $V_{n+1}$ , n=1,2,... but with a different sign. These terms called by noise terms and will be self-cancelled in  $\varphi_{\infty} = \lim_{k \to \infty} \sum_{n=0}^{k} V_n$ .

In this problem, we continued solving (19) for  $V_n$ , n=0,1,... until  $V_4$  and hence obtained the four-term approximation  $\varphi_4 = V_0 + V_1 + V_2 + V_3 + V_4$ ,

$$\varphi_4(x,t) = \frac{1}{x} - \frac{t}{x^2} + \frac{t^2}{x^3} - \frac{t^3}{x^4} + \frac{t^4}{x^5} - \frac{t^5}{x^6} + \frac{t^6}{x^7} - \frac{t^7}{x^8} + \frac{t^8}{x^9} - \frac{t^9}{x^{10}} + \text{noise terms}.$$
(22)

We found that the application of the Padé approximants [N/M], with respect to *t* to the series solution  $\varphi_4$ , for all  $N \ge 0$  and  $M \ge 1$  such that  $N+M \le 9$ , gives

$$[N/M](x,t) = \frac{1}{x+t},$$
 (23)

which is the exact solution of the cubic Boussinesq equation (16).

It's obvious that utilizing of PA provides self-examination to the exact solution if the NLDE has a rational exact one by using only a few-term solution of the HPM.

# 4. Conclusions

The first conclusion that can be draw from our results is that the He's homotopy perturbation method is an effective tool to deal with nonlinear dispersive equations of Boussinesq and, in isolation, provides an accurate approximation in a relatively small interval of *t*. The second conclusion is that the application of the Padé approximants to the HPM truncated series solution greatly improves the results, increases accuracy, enlarge convergence region and in some cases gives self-examination to the exact solution. It's worth noting that the HPM with the enhancement of PA is an effective, simple and quite accurate tool for handling and solving nonlinear dispersive equations and other types of NLDEs. The various applications of the HPM prove that it's an efficient method to handle nonlinear structures.

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