

# A Starting Method for Solving Nonlinear Volterra Integral Equations

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**Abstract.** In this paper a fifth order starting method is given for Volterra equations of the form  $y(t) = f(t) + \int_{x_0}^t k(t, s, y(s)) ds$ . Computational examples are given for the method as a starting method for the Gregory-Newton method.

**1. Introduction.** In this paper we shall consider an  $O(h^5)$  starting method for the numerical solution of the nonlinear Volterra integral equation

$$(1) \quad y(t) = f(t) + \int_{x_0}^t k(t, s, y(s)) ds.$$

After stating our algorithm we shall discuss its derivation and consider some computational examples. In our computational examples we shall consider our method as a starting method for the Gregory-Newton method. The Gregory-Newton method in this context has been discussed by Fox and Goodwin [2], Noble [8], and Todd [11].

**2. The Algorithm.** The self-starting method described here advances the solution from  $x_0$  to  $x_0 + h$ ,  $x_0 + h$  to  $x_0 + 2h$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $x_0 + 5h$  to  $x_0 + 6h$ . To advance from  $x_0$  to  $x_0 + h$  we compute

$$(2) \quad \hat{y}_{1/3} = f\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}\right) + \frac{h}{3} k\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}, x_0, y_0\right),$$

$$(3) \quad y_{1/3} = f\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}\right) + \frac{h}{6} \left[ k\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}, x_0, y_0\right) + k\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}, x_0 + \frac{h}{3}, \hat{y}_{1/3}\right) \right],$$

$$(4) \quad \hat{y}_{2/3} = f\left(x_0 + \frac{2h}{3}\right) + \frac{2h}{3} k\left(x_0 + \frac{2h}{3}, x_0 + \frac{h}{3}, y_{1/3}\right),$$

$$(5) \quad \hat{y}_{1/2} = f\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{2}\right) + \frac{h}{8} \left[ k\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{2}, x_0, y_0\right) + 3k\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{2}, x_0 + \frac{h}{3}, y_{1/3}\right) \right],$$

$$(6) \quad \hat{y}_1 = f(x_0 + h) + \frac{h}{4} \left[ k(x_0 + h, x_0, y_0) + 3k\left(x_0 + h, x_0 + \frac{2h}{3}, \hat{y}_{2/3}\right) \right],$$

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} y_1 &= f(x_0 + h) + \frac{h}{6} \left[ k(x_0 + h, x_0, y_0) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 4k\left(x_0 + h, x_0 + \frac{h}{2}, \hat{y}_{1/2}\right) + k(x_0 + h, x_0 + h, \hat{y}_1) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

To advance from  $x_0 + h$  to  $x_0 + 2h$  we compute

$$(8) \quad \begin{aligned} \hat{y}_{3/2} &= f\left(x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}\right) + \frac{3h}{4} \left[ k\left(x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}, x_0 + \frac{h}{2}, \hat{y}_{1/2}\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + k\left(x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}, x_0 + h, y_1\right) \right], \end{aligned}$$

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$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} y_{3/2} &= f\left(x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}\right) + \frac{3h}{16} \left[ k\left(x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}, x_0, y_0\right) + 3k\left(x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}, x_0 + \frac{h}{2}, \hat{y}_{1/2}\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 3k\left(x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}, x_0 + h, y_1\right) + k\left(x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}, x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}, \hat{y}_{3/2}\right) \right], \end{aligned}$$

$$(10) \quad \begin{aligned} \hat{y}_2 &= f(x_0 + 2h) + \frac{2h}{3} \left[ k\left(x_0 + 2h, x_0 + \frac{h}{2}, \hat{y}_{1/2}\right) \cdot 2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. - k(x_0 + 2h, x_0 + h, y_1) + 2k\left(x_0 + 2h, x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}, y_{3/2}\right) \right], \end{aligned}$$

$$(11) \quad \begin{aligned} y_2 &= f(x_0 + 2h) + \frac{h}{6} [k(x_0 + 2h, x_0, y_0) + 4k(x_0 + h, x_{1/2}, \hat{y}_{1/2}) \\ &\quad + 2k(x_2, x_1, y_1) + 4k(x_2, x_{3/2}, y_{3/2}) + k(x_2, x_2, \hat{y}_2)]. \end{aligned}$$

To advance from  $x_0 + 2h$  to  $x_0 + 3h$  we compute

$$(12) \quad \begin{aligned} \hat{y}_{5/2} &= f\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}\right) + \frac{5h}{48} \left[ 11k\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}, x_0 + \frac{h}{2}, \hat{y}_{1/2}\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + k\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}, x_0 + h, y_1\right) + k\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}, x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}, y_{3/2}\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 11k\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}, x_0 + 2h, y_2\right) \right], \end{aligned}$$

$$(13) \quad \begin{aligned} y_{5/2} &= f\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}\right) + \frac{5h}{576} \left[ 19k\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}, x_0, y_0\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 75k\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}, x_{1/2}, \hat{y}_{1/2}\right) + 50k\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}, x_1, y_1\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 50k\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}, x_{3/2}, y_{3/2}\right) + 75k(x_{5/2}, x_2, y_2) + 19k(x_{5/2}, x_{5/2}, \hat{y}_{5/2}) \right], \end{aligned}$$

$$(14) \quad \begin{aligned} \hat{y}_3 &= f(x_0 + 3h) + \frac{3h}{20} [11k(x_3, x_{1/2}, \hat{y}_{1/2}) - 14k(x_3, x_1, y_1) \\ &\quad + 26k(x_3, x_{3/2}, y_{3/2}) - 14k(x_3, x_2, y_2) + 11k(x_3, x_{5/2}, y_{5/2})], \end{aligned}$$

$$(15) \quad \begin{aligned} y_3 &= f(x_0 + 3h) + \frac{h}{6} [k(x_3, x_0, y_0) + 4k(x_3, x_{1/2}, \hat{y}_{1/2}) + 2k(x_3, x_1, y_1) \\ &\quad + 4k(x_3, x_{3/2}, y_{3/2}) + 2k(x_3, x_2, y_2) + 4k(x_3, x_{5/2}, y_{5/2}) + k(x_3, x_3, \hat{y}_3)]. \end{aligned}$$

To advance from  $x_0 + 3h$  to  $x_0 + 4h$  we compute

$$(16) \quad \hat{y}_4 = f(x_0 + 4h) + \frac{4h}{3} [2k(x_4, x_1, y_1) - k(x_4, x_2, y_2) + 2k(x_4, x_3, y_3)],$$

$$(17) \quad \begin{aligned} y_4 &= f(x_0 + 4h) + \frac{4h}{90} [7k(x_0 + 4h, x_0, y_0) + 32k(x_0 + 4h, x_0 + h, y_1) \\ &\quad + 12k(x_0 + 4h, x_2, y_2) + 32k(x_4, x_3, y_3) + 7k(x_4, x_4, \hat{y}_4)]. \end{aligned}$$

To advance from  $x_0 + 4h$  to  $x_0 + 5h$  we compute

$$(18) \quad \begin{aligned} \hat{y}_5 &= f(x_0 + 5h) + \frac{5h}{24} [11k(x_5, x_1, y_1) + k(x_5, x_2, y_2) + k(x_5, x_3, y_3) \\ &\quad + 11k(x_5, x_4, y_4)], \\ (19) \quad y_5 &= f(x_0 + 5h) + \frac{5h}{288} [19k(x_0 + 5h, x_0, y_0) + 75k(x_0 + 5h, x_0 + h, y_1) \\ &\quad + 50k(x_5, x_2, y_2) + 50k(x_5, x_3, y_3) + 75k(x_5, x_4, y_4) + 19k(x_5, x_5, \hat{y}_5)]. \end{aligned}$$

To advance from  $x_0 + 5h$  to  $x_0 + 6h$  we compute

$$(20) \quad \begin{aligned} \hat{y}_6 &= f(x_0 + 6h) + \frac{6h}{20} [11k(x_6, x_1, y_1) - 14k(x_6, x_2, y_2) \\ &\quad + 26k(x_6, x_3, y_3) - 14k(x_6, x_4, y_4) + 11k(x_6, x_5, y_5)], \\ (21) \quad y_6 &= f(x_0 + 6h) + \frac{3h}{10} [k(x_6, x_0, y_0) + 5k(x_6, x_1, y_1) + k(x_6, x_2, y_2) \\ &\quad + 6k(x_6, x_3, y_3) + k(x_6, x_4, y_4) + 5k(x_6, x_5, y_5) + k(x_6, x_6, \hat{y}_6)]. \end{aligned}$$

**3. Derivation of Algorithm.** We shall sketch the derivation of the algorithm. Many of the ideas for the algorithm will be found in a paper due to Kuntzmann [5].

If we approximate the integral in (1) by Simpson's rule on the interval  $[x_0, x_0 + h]$  we obtain

$$(22) \quad \begin{aligned} y(x_0 + h) &= f(x_0 + h) + \frac{h}{6} \left[ k(x_0 + h, x_0, y_0) \right. \\ &\quad + 4k \left( x_0 + h, x_0 + \frac{h}{2}, y \left( x_0 + \frac{h}{2} \right) \right) \\ &\quad \left. + k(x_0 + h, x_0 + h, y(x_0 + h)) \right] - \frac{h^5}{2880} k^{IV}(x_0 + h, \xi, y(\xi)). \end{aligned}$$

where  $x_0 < \xi < x_0 + h$ . Here  $y(x_0 + h/2)$  and  $y(x_0 + h)$  are not known in the right side of (22). If we are to use (22) we must obtain accurate approximate values for  $y(x_0 + h/2)$  and  $y(x_0 + h)$ . We do this in the following manner. First we note that

$$(23) \quad \begin{aligned} y(x_0 + h) &= f(x_0 + h) + \frac{h}{4} \left[ k(x_0 + h, x_0, y_0) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 3k \left( x_0 + h, x_0 + \frac{2h}{3}, y \left( x_0 + \frac{2h}{3} \right) \right) \right] + O(h^4) \end{aligned}$$

is an  $O(h^4)$  approximation to  $y(x_0 + h)$ . (This is the Radau two-point rule.) However, here we do not know  $y(x_0 + 2h/3)$ , but if we could obtain it to  $O(h^3)$  then we could use (23). Thus, we attempt to attain an  $O(h^3)$  approximation to  $y(x_0 + 2h/3)$ . This is done by using the midpoint rule

$$(24) \quad y \left( x_0 + \frac{2h}{3} \right) = f \left( x_0 + \frac{2h}{3} \right) + \frac{2h}{3} k \left( x_0 + \frac{2h}{3}, x_0 + \frac{h}{3}, y \left( x_0 + \frac{h}{3} \right) \right) + O(h^3).$$

However here we do not know  $y(x_0 + h/3)$  to  $O(h^2)$ . We obtain it to  $O(h^3)$  by using the trapezoidal rule and Taylor's series.

$$(25) \quad \begin{aligned} y\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}\right) &= f\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}\right) + \frac{h}{6} \left[ k\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}, x_0, y_0\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + k\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}, x_0 + \frac{h}{3}, y\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}\right)\right) \right] + O(h^3), \end{aligned}$$

$$(26) \quad \begin{aligned} y\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}\right) &= f\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}\right) + \int_{x_0}^{x_0+h/3} \left[ k\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}, x_0, y_0\right) + O(h) \right] ds \\ &= f\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}\right) + \frac{h}{3} k\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{3}, x_0, y_0\right) + O(h^2). \end{aligned}$$

Summarizing the above procedure, we have that formula (23) is used to predict a value for  $y_1$  (Eq. (6)) which is then corrected with (25) (Eq. (7)). Formula (26) is used to predict a value for  $y_{1/3}$  (Eq. (2)) which is corrected with (25) (Eq. (3)).

The value of  $\hat{y}_{1/2}$  is obtained by approximating the integral in

$$y\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{2}\right) = f\left(x_0 + \frac{h}{2}\right) + \int_{x_0}^{x_0+h/2} k(t, s, y(s)) ds, \quad t = x_0 + \frac{h}{2},$$

by the Radau two-point rule, disregarding the truncation error and substituting  $y_{1/3}$  in for  $y(x_0 + h/3)$ .

In advancing from  $x_0 + h$  to  $x_0 + 2h$ , we first let  $x$  equal to  $x_0 + 2h$  in (1) to obtain

$$(27) \quad y(x_0 + 2h) = f(x_0 + 2h) + \int_{x_0}^{x_0+2h} k(x_0 + 2h, s, y(s)) ds.$$

This integral could be evaluated by Simpson's rule if we knew accurate approximate values for  $y_{3/2}$  and  $y_2$ . We obtain approximate values for  $y_{3/2}$  by first using the open Newton-Cotes formula

$$(28) \quad \begin{aligned} \hat{y}\left(x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}\right) &= f\left(x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}\right) + \frac{3h}{4} \left[ k\left(x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}, x_0 + \frac{h}{2}, y_{1/2}\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + k\left(x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}, x_0 + h, y_1\right) \right] + O(h^3) \end{aligned}$$

and substituting this value into Simpson's three-eighths' rule on  $[x_0, x_0 + 3h/2]$

$$\begin{aligned} y\left(x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}\right) &= f\left(x_0 + \frac{3h}{2}\right) + \frac{3h}{16} [k(x_{3/2}, x_0, y_0) + 3k(x_{3/2}, x_{1/2}, y_{1/2}) \\ &\quad + 3k(x_{3/2}, x_1, y_1) + k(x_{3/2}, x_{3/2}, \hat{y}_{3/2})] + O(h^4). \end{aligned}$$

An accurate value for  $y(x_0 + 2h)$  is obtained by using the Newton-Cotes open formula

$$\begin{aligned} y(x_0 + 2h) &= f(x_0 + 2h) + \frac{2h}{3} [2k(x_2, x_{1/2}, y_{1/2}) - k(x_0 + 2h, x_1, y_1) \\ &\quad + 2k(x_2, x_{3/2}, y_{3/2})] + O(h^5). \end{aligned}$$

and substituting this result into Simpson's rule

$$\begin{aligned} y(x_0 + 2h) &= f(x_0 + 2h) + \frac{h}{6} [k(x_2, x_0, y_0) + 4k(x_2, x_{1/2}, y_{1/2}) + 2k(x_2, x_1, y_1) \\ &\quad + 4k(x_2, x_{3/2}, y_{3/2}) + k(x_2, x_2, y_2)] + O(h^5). \end{aligned}$$

To advance from  $x_0 + 2h$  to  $x_0 + 3h$  we could again use Simpson's rule if we knew accurate approximate values for  $y_{5/2}$  and  $y_3$ . We proceed as follows. Use the open Newton-Cotes formula

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{y}_{5/2} &= f\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}\right) + \frac{5h}{48} \left[ 11k\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}, x_{1/2}, y_{1/2}\right) + k\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}, x_1, y_1\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + k\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}, x_{3/2}, y_{3/2}\right) + 11k(x_{5/2}, x_2, y_2) \right] + O(h^5) \end{aligned}$$

along with the closed Newton-Cotes formula

$$\begin{aligned} y_{5/2} &= f\left(x_0 + \frac{5h}{2}\right) + \frac{5h}{576} [19k(x_{5/2}, x_0, y_0) + 75k(x_{5/2}, x_{1/2}, y_{1/2}) \\ &\quad + 50k(x_{5/2}, x_1, y_1) + 50k(x_{5/2}, x_{3/2}, y_{3/2}) \\ &\quad + 75k(x_{5/2}, x_2, y_2) + 19k(x_{5/2}, x_{5/2}, \hat{y}_{5/2})] + O(h^5). \end{aligned}$$

To obtain an approximate value for  $y$  at  $x_3$  we use the open Newton-Cotes formula

$$\begin{aligned} y_3 &= f(x_0 + 3h) + \frac{3h}{20} [11k(x_0 + 3h, x_{1/2}, y_{1/2}) - 14k(x_3, x_1, y_1) \\ &\quad + 26k(x_3, x_{3/2}, y_{3/2}) - 14k(x_3, x_2, y_2) + 11k(x_3, x_{5/2}, y_{5/2})] + O(h^6) \end{aligned}$$

together with Simpson's rule

$$\begin{aligned} y(x_0 + 3h) &= f(x_0 + 3h) + \frac{h}{6} [k(x_0 + 3h, x_0, y_0) + 4k(x_3, x_{1/2}, y_{1/2}) \\ &\quad + 2k(x_3, x_1, y_1) + 4k(x_3, x_{3/2}, y_{3/2}) + 2k(x_3, x_2, y_2) \\ &\quad + 4k(x_3, x_{5/2}, y_{5/2}) + k(x_3, x_3, y_3)] + O(h^5). \end{aligned}$$

It should be noted that the predictor is of higher order than the corrector here. To advance from  $x_0 + 3h$  to  $x_0 + 4h$  we approximate the integral in

$$y(x_0 + 4h) = f(x_0 + 4h) + \int_{x_0}^{x_0+4h} k(x_0 + 4h, s, y(s)) ds$$

by the Newton-Cotes formula

$$\begin{aligned} y(x_0 + 4h) &= f(x_0 + 4h) + \frac{4h}{90} [7k(x_4, x_0, y_0) + 32k(x_4, x_1, y_1) + 12k(x_4, x_2, y_2) \\ &\quad + 32k(x_4, x_3, y_3) + 7k(x_4, x_4, y_4)] + O(h^7). \end{aligned}$$

Here  $y_4$  is obtained from the open Newton-Cotes formula

$$\begin{aligned} y(x_0 + 4h) = f(x_0 + 4h) &+ \frac{4h}{3} [2k(x_4, x_1, y_1) - k(x_4, x_2, y_2) \\ &+ 2k(x_4, x_3, y_3)] + O(h^5). \end{aligned}$$

An approximate value of  $y$  at  $x_0 + 5h$  is obtained by the open Newton-Cotes formula

$$\begin{aligned} y(x_0 + 5h) = f(x_0 + 5h) &+ \frac{5h}{24} [11k(x_5, x_1, y_1) + k(x_5, x_2, y_2) \\ &+ k(x_5, x_3, y_3) + 11k(x_5, x_4, y_4)] + O(h^5) \end{aligned}$$

combined with the closed Newton-Cotes formulae

$$\begin{aligned} y(x_0 + 5h) = f(x_0 + 5h) &+ \frac{5h}{288} [19k(x_5, x_0, y_0) + 75k(x_5, x_1, y_1) \\ &+ 50k(x_5, x_2, y_2) + 50k(x_5, x_3, y_3) \\ &+ 75k(x_5, x_4, y_4) + 19k(x_5, x_5, y_5)] + O(h^6). \end{aligned}$$

To advance from  $x_0 + 5h$  to  $x_0 + 6h$  we use the open Newton-Cotes formula

$$\begin{aligned} y_6 = f(x_0 + 6h) &+ \frac{6h}{20} [11k(x_0 + 6h, x_1, y_1) - 14k(x_6, x_2, y_2) \\ &+ 26k(x_6, x_3, y_3) - 14k(x_6, x_4, y_4) + 11k(x_6, x_5, y_5)] + O(h^7) \end{aligned}$$

together with Weddle's rule

$$\begin{aligned} y_6 = f(x_0 + 6h) &+ \frac{3h}{10} [k(x_6, x_0, y_0) + 5k(x_6, x_1, y_1) + k(x_6, x_2, y_2) \\ &+ 6k(x_6, x_3, y_3) + k(x_6, x_4, y_4) + 5k(x_6, x_5, y_5) + k(x_6, x_6, y_6)] + O(h^7). \end{aligned}$$

The Newton-Cotes open and closed formulae and Weddle's rule are given in Milne [7]. For the other integration rules used here, see Hildebrand [3]. It should be noted that we have assumed that the eighth partial derivative of  $k$  with respect to  $s$  and  $y(s)$  exist and is bounded in order to apply our method.

The method under consideration can be applied to systems of integral equations.

**4. Use of Gregory-Newton Formulae.** The Gregory-Newton Formulae (see Todd [11], Hildebrand [3])

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{x_0}^{x_0+nh} f(p) dp &= h \left\{ \frac{f(x_0)}{2} + f(x_1) + \cdots + f(x_{n-1}) + \frac{f(x_n)}{2} \right\} \\ &+ \frac{h}{12} \{ [f(x_1) - f(x_0)] - [f(x_n) - f(x_{n-1})] \} \\ &- \frac{h}{24} \{ [f(x_2) - 2f(x_1) + f(x_0)] + [f(x_n) - 2f(x_{n-1}) + f(x_{n-2})] \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \frac{19h}{720} \{ [f(x_3) - 3f(x_2) + 3f(x_1) - f(x_0)] - [f(x_n) - 3f(x_{n-1}) \\
& \quad + 3f(x_{n-2}) - f(x_{n-3})] \} \\
& - \frac{3h}{160} \{ [f(x_4) - 4f(x_3) + 6f(x_2) - 4f(x_1) + f(x_0)] \\
& \quad + [f(x_n) - 4f(x_{n-1}) + 6f(x_{n-2}) - 4f(x_{n-3}) + f(x_{n-4})] \} \\
& + \frac{863h}{60480} [\Delta^5 f(x_0) - \nabla^5 f(x_n)] + \dots
\end{aligned}$$

was used by Fox and Goodwin [2] in their treatment of linear Volterra integral equations. In this paper we use the Gregory-Newton formulae through fourth differences to advance the solution from  $x = x_0 + 6h$  to any  $x = x_0 + Nh$ .

Since the integral equation is nonlinear, there is a need for a “predictor” to correspond to the role of the Gregory-Newton formula as “corrector.” In our work we have used the following scheme. If we are to advance from  $x_0 + (2N - 1)h$  to  $x_0 + 2Nh$  use Simpson’s rule with step size  $h$ , from  $x_0$  through  $x_0 + 2Nh - 4h$ , then use the open Newton-Cotes formulae

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_4} y \, dx = \frac{4h}{3} [2y_1 - y_2 + 2y_3] + O(h^5)$$

on the interval  $[x_0 + 2Nh - 4h, x_0 + 2Nh]$ . In case  $x = x_0 + (2N - 1)h$  we first integrate from  $x_0$  to  $x_0 + 3h$  with Simpson’s “three-eighths” rule followed by Simpson’s rule until we come to  $x_0 + (2N - 1)h - 4h$ . Then apply the open Cotes formula used above. This predictor has enabled us to use the Gregory-Newton formula with only two iterations. Before using this, an  $O(h^2)$  predictor was used. However seven iterations were necessary in this case. Here the iterations were stopped after a certain number of decimal places of accuracy were achieved.

**5. Computational Examples.** The following computational examples were computed in Fortran (single precision) on the CDC 1604. By error we mean

$$\text{error} = |\text{true} - \text{approximate value}|.$$

*Example 1.* The integral equation

$$y(t) = 1 - t + \int_0^t (te^{x(t-2x)} + e^{-2x^2}) \cdot (y(x))^2 \, dx$$

has the solution  $y(x) = e^{x^2}$ . It has been considered by Lauder and Oules [6]. We find the following errors.

*Example 2.* The integral equation

$$y(t) = \frac{2t^{3/2}}{3} + \int_0^t (y(x))^{1/2} \, dx$$

was obtained by integrating the differential equation  $y' = x^{1/2} + y^{1/2}$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ . This differential equation (see Todd [11], Noble [9]) does not possess a Taylor as

pansion about the origin. Its solution about the origin can be written in the series

$$y(x) = \frac{2}{3}x^{3/2} + \frac{4}{7}(2/3)^{1/2}x^{7/4} + \frac{1}{7}x^2 + \frac{1}{49}(2/3)^{1/2}x^{9/4} - \frac{2}{1715}x^{5/2} + \dots$$

we obtain the following values for  $x$  at .1, .2, 1.0 with step sizes .1, .05, .025.

These values compare quite favorably with those obtained by Noble using the Runge-Kutta method (see Noble [9]).

*Example 3.* The integral equation

$$y(t) = \int_0^t \max(x, y) dx$$

was obtained from the differential equation  $y' = \max(x, y)$ ,  $y(0) = 0$  (see Burkhill [1]). The solution of this differential equation is

$$y(x) = x^2/2 \quad \text{for } x \leq 2, \quad y(x) = 2e^{(x-2)} \quad \text{for } x > 2.$$

Thus there is a discontinuity in  $y''$  at  $x = 2$ .

In this example somewhat better results in the region  $x \geq 2$  were obtained by using the Runge-Kutta method.

*Example 4.* The integral equation

$$y(t) = 2t + 3 + \int_0^t -y(x)(2(t-x) + 3) dx$$

discussed by Todd [11]. The equation has the exact solution  $y(t) = 4e^{-2t} - e^{-t}$ .

In addition to the above examples the writer has computed examples given by Jones [4], Pouzet [10], Fox and Goodwin [2] and others. These numerical examples are available from the writer in an MRC report.

TABLE 1

$x$	$h = .05$	$h = .1$	$h = .2$
.05	$2.91 \times 10^{-11}$		
.1	0	$2.91 \times 10^{-10}$	
.2	0	$2.65 \times 10^{-9}$	$4.94 \times 10^{-8}$
.25	$2.91 \times 10^{-11}$		
.3	$2.91 \times 10^{-11}$	$3.84 \times 10^{-9}$	
.5	0	$2.35 \times 10^{-8}$	
1.00	$2.33 \times 10^{-10}$	$2.40 \times 10^{-8}$	$7.65 \times 10^{-5}$
2.00	$1.80 \times 10^{-6}$	$9.07 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.51 \times 10^{-3}$
2.50	$1.15 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.79 \times 10^{-3}$	

TABLE 2

	$h = .1$	$h = .05$	$h = .025$
$x = .1$	.030711	.030838	.030860
$x = .2$	.093425	.093541	.093621
$x = 1$	1.290677	1.291174	1.291354

TABLE 3

$x$	$h = .05$	$h = .1$	$h = .2$
.1	$1.14 \times 10^{-13}$	$1.14 \times 10^{-13}$	
.2	$1.36 \times 10^{-12}$	$4.55 \times 10^{-13}$	$4.55 \times 10^{-13}$
.3	$9.09 \times 10^{-31}$	0 (Machine)	
.4	$3.64 \times 10^{-12}$	$5.46 \times 10^{-12}$	$1.82 \times 10^{-12}$
.5	0 (Machine)	0 (Machine)	
1.0	0 (Machine)	0 (Machine)	0 (Machine)
1.4	$2.91 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.46 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.46 \times 10^{-11}$
1.6	$8.73 \times 10^{-11}$	$5.82 \times 10^{-11}$	$5.82 \times 10^{-11}$
1.8	$5.82 \times 10^{-11}$	$5.82 \times 10^{-11}$	$8.73 \times 10^{-11}$
2.0	0 (Machine)	0 (Machine)	
2.1	$8.19 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.76 \times 10^{-3}$	
2.2	$2.58 \times 10^{-4}$	$4.70 \times 10^{-4}$	$7.27 \times 10^{-3}$
2.5	$3.43 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.36 \times 10^{-3}$	
3.0		$2.26 \times 10^{-3}$	$8.99 \times 10^{-3}$

TABLE 4

$x$	$h = .05$	$h = .1$	$h = .2$
.1	$2.41 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.44 \times 10^{-5}$	
.2	$2.48 \times 10^{-6}$	$6.83 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.36 \times 10^{-4}$
.3	$1.38 \times 10^{-7}$	$4.17 \times 10^{-5}$	
.4	$1.22 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.33 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.68 \times 10^{-3}$
.5	$2.98 \times 10^{-8}$	$1.87 \times 10^{-4}$	
1.0	$8.57 \times 10^{-9}$	$1.65 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.66 \times 10^{-3}$
1.4	$1.49 \times 10^{-9}$	$4.62 \times 10^{-6}$	$8.83 \times 10^{-4}$
1.6	$6.43 \times 10^{-9}$	$2.37 \times 10^{-6}$	$3.34 \times 10^{-3}$
1.8	$9.70 \times 10^{-9}$	$1.14 \times 10^{-6}$	$4.63 \times 10^{-4}$
2.0	$1.25 \times 10^{-8}$	$4.69 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.35 \times 10^{-3}$
2.5	$1.35 \times 10^{-8}$	$8.57 \times 10^{-8}$	
3.0		$1.20 \times 10^{-7}$	$3.45 \times 10^{-4}$
4.0		$3.70 \times 10^{-8}$	$4.65 \times 10^{-6}$
5.0		$8.94 \times 10^{-8}$	$4.43 \times 10^{-5}$

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