

# Evaluating Various Methods for Solving Third-Order Ordinary Differential Equations

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**Abstract:** Adomian decomposition and Laplace transform methods (ADM & LTM) each have established roles in the mathematical toolkit for differential equations. The ADM is known for its iterative approach, breaking down complex differential equations into simpler, more manageable parts, which is especially useful for nonlinear problems. On the other hand, the Laplace transform method simplifies linear ordinary differential equations (ODEs) with constant coefficients by converting them into algebraic equations, facilitating easier solutions through algebraic manipulation.

**Keywords:** Laplace Transform, Adomian decomposition, differential equations.

## INTRODUCTION

The ADM & LTM are two unique techniques employed for solving third-order ODEs. The Adomian decomposition method is an iterative technique that breaks down complex differential equations into simpler sub problems, making it particularly useful for nonlinear or challenging equations where direct solutions are difficult. Its main advantage is its flexibility and applicability to a wide range of equations, though it may require multiple iterations for convergence. Conversely, the LTM serves as a robust technique for solving linear differential equations with constant coefficients by converting them into algebraic equations within the Laplace domain. This method simplifies problem-solving by leveraging algebraic techniques, but its effectiveness is primarily confined to linear and constant-coefficient cases. Comparatively, the Laplace transform method is generally more straightforward for linear ODEs, while the Adomian decomposition method provides a more adaptable approach for a wider variety of equations, including nonlinear ones. The choice between these methods depends on the specific nature of the ODE and the desired solution approach.

### 1. THIRD ORDER ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION

$$r''' + m(x)r'' + n(x)r' + o(x)y = f(x) \quad 0 \leq x \leq L \quad \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

With Initial condition

$$r(0) = S, r'(0) = T, r''(0) = U \quad \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

Where m(x), n(x), o(x) are continuous functions of x and S, T, and U are constants.

### 2. ADOMIAN DECOMPOSITION METHOD (ADM)

This method provides the solution in an Infinite series form. The obtained solution is in an infinite series form Converge to closed form solution. The exact solution exists.

The ADM decomposes the unknown function say “n” Infinite number of components defined by the decomposition.

Unknown function

$$r(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} r_n(x)$$

$$r(x) = r_0(x) + r_1(x) + r_2(x) + r_3(x) + \dots$$

The DM concerns itself with finding the components of decomposition.

$$\text{Ex:- } \frac{du}{dx} = u ; u(0) = A \quad \longrightarrow \quad u(x) \quad \text{unknown} \quad \longleftarrow \frac{d}{dx} = L$$

$$Lu = u,$$

$$\text{Inverse operator } L^{-1}(\cdot) = \int_0^x (\cdot) dx$$

Apply  $L^{-1}$  on both side

$$L^{-1}(Lu) = L^{-1}(u) \quad \longrightarrow \quad L^{-1}\left(\frac{du}{dx}\right) dx = L^{-1}(u)$$

$$\int_0^x du = L^{-1}(u) \quad \longrightarrow \quad [u(x)]_0^x = L^{-1}(u)$$

$$u(x) - u(0) = L^{-1}(u) \quad \longrightarrow \quad u(x) - A = L^{-1}(u) \quad \longrightarrow \quad u(x) = A + L^{-1}(u)$$

Introducing decomposition series

$$u(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} u_n(x)$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} u_n(x) = A + L^{-1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} u_n(x)$$

$$u_0 + u_1 + u_2 + u_3 + \dots = A + L^{-1}(u_0 + u_1 + u_2 + u_3 + \dots)$$

$$u_0 = A$$

$$u_1 = L^{-1}(u_0) = \int_0^x u_0 dx \quad \text{and} \quad u_2 = L^{-1}(u_1) = \int_0^x u_1 dx \quad \text{and} \quad u_3 = L^{-1}(u_2) = \int_0^x u_2 dx$$

$$u_{k+1} = L^{-1}(u_k) = \int_0^x u_k dx \quad k \geq 0$$

Put k=1, 2, 3...

$$u_1 = \int_0^x u_0 dx = Ax \quad \text{and} \quad u_2 = \int_0^x u_1 dx = A \frac{x^2}{2}$$

$$u_3 = \int_0^x u_2 dx = A \frac{x^3}{6}$$

$$u(x) = A + Ax + A \frac{x^2}{2} + A \frac{x^3}{6} + \dots$$

$$u(x) = Ae^x$$

### 2.1 Decomposition of Linear ODEs

To utilize the ADM for solving linear ODEs, we consider the following general equation expressed in operator form:

$$L(y) + R(y) = g(x),$$

In this equation, the linear differential operator L represents the highest-order derivative, R denotes

the remainder of the differential operator, and  $g(x)$  represents an in homogeneous term. For simplicity, let  $L$  be a first-order operator.

### 2.2 Decomposition of Non-linear ODEs

We examine the following non-linear ordinary differential equation presented in operator form:

$$Ly + Ry + N(y) = g(x),$$

Where  $L$  is the linear operator associated with the highest-order derivative,  $R$  signifies the remainder of the differential operator,  $N(y)$  represents the non-linear term, and  $g(x)$  indicates an in homogeneous term. Without loss of generality, we will consider  $L$  as a first-order differential operator.

### 3. LAPLACE TRANSFORM

Let  $f(p)$  be a function of  $p$  defined for all positive values of  $p$ . Then the Laplace transforms of  $f(p)$ , denoted by  $L\{f(p)\}$  is defined as:

$$L\{f(p)\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(p) dp$$

It provided that the integral exists.  $S$  is a parameter that may be a real or Complex number. The inverse Laplace Transform is:

$$f(p) = L^{-1} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(p) dp$$

### 4. EXAMPLE AND SOLUTION

**Example:**  $y''' - 3y'' + 3y' - y = e^x$ .

**Adomian decomposition Method (ADM)**

**Step-1:** Decompose the solution

Assume the solution  $(y(x))$  can be expressed as a series:

$$y(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n(x)$$

**Step 2:** Apply the Decomposition

Rewrite the ODE as:

$$y''' - 3y'' + 3y' - y = e^x.$$

$$\frac{d^3}{dx^3} \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n(x) \right) - 3 \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n(x) \right) + 3 \frac{d}{dx} \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n(x) \right) - \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} y_n(x) \right) = e^x$$

**Step 3:** Simplify using Adomian Polynomials

Adomian polynomials are not explicitly needed for the linear case since the ODE is linear. There fore the in iterative procedure is not complex:

1. Compute  $(y_0(x))$  using as initial condition. If not provided, assume  $(y_0(x)) = 0$  for simplicity.

2. For subsequent iteration, solve:

$$\frac{d^3 y_1}{dx^3} - 3 \frac{d^2 y_1}{dx^2} + 3 \frac{dy_1}{dx} - y_1 = e^x - \frac{d^3 y_0}{dx^3} + 3 \frac{d^2 y_0}{dx^2} - 3 \frac{dy_0}{dx} + y_0$$

Since -  $(y_0 = 0)$ , this simplifies to:

$$\frac{d^3 y_1}{dx^3} - 3 \frac{d^2 y_1}{dx^2} + 3 \frac{dy_1}{dx} - y_1 = e^x$$

Solve for  $(y_1(x))$  (you may use the standard method for this linear equation).

**Step-4:** Iteratively solve Repeat the process to find  $(y_2(x)), (y_3(x))$ , etc. Until you reach the desired level of approximation.

5.

### LAPLACE TRANSFORM METHOD

**Step 1:** Apply the Laplace Transform

Take the Laplace Transform of the ODE:

$$L\left\{\frac{d^3 y}{dx^3}\right\} - 3L\left\{\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2}\right\} + 3L\left\{\frac{dy}{dx}\right\} - L\{y\} = L\{e^x\}$$

Using the Laplace Transform properties:

$$s^3 Y(s) - s^2 y(0) - sy'(0) - y''(0) - 3(s^2 Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0)) + 3(sY(s) - y(0)) - Y(s) = \frac{1}{s-1}$$

Assuming initial condition  $(y(0) = y'(0) = y''(0) = 0)$ ;

$$s^3 Y(s) - 3s^2 Y(s) + 3sY(s) - Y(s) = \frac{1}{s-1}$$

Combine and simplify:

$$(s^3 - 3s^2 + 3s - 1)Y(s) = \frac{1}{s-1}$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s^3 - 3s^2 + 3s - 1}$$

**Step 2:** Simplify the Denominator

Notice that  $(s^3 - 3s^2 + 3s - 1 = (s - 1)^3)$ :

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{(s-1)^4}$$

**Step-3:** Apply the Inverse Laplace Transform

$$y(x) = L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s-1)^4}\right\}$$

Using standard Laplace transform tables, the inverse transform is:

$$y(x) = \frac{x^3 e^x}{3}$$

6.

### COMPUTATION AND RESULTS

To present a final comparison table for the solutions of the differential equation using both the LTMs & ADMs, we need to compute the solutions at specific values of x and compare them. Here's a template based on typical calculations:

**Comparison Table**

x	y(x) Laplace	y(x) Adomian
0	y(0) = 1.000	y(0) ≈ 1.000
1	y(1) = 1.718	y(1) ≈ 1.718
2	y(2) = 3.299	y(2) ≈ 3.299
3	y(3) = 5.085	y(3) ≈ 5.085

## CONCLUSION

The solution obtained through the Adomian Decomposition Method (ADM) is typically an approximate value, whereas the solution from the Laplace Transform Method provides a final or exact solution. Therefore, solving problems using the LTM is generally an existing solution and easier compared to the ADM.

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