

# Unveiling the Power of Homotopy Analysis Method in Nonlinear Differential Equations

## Homotopy Analysis Method for Nonlinear Differential Equations with Fractional Orders

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The aim of this paper is to solve nonlinear differential equations with fractional derivatives by the homotopy analysis method. The fractional derivative is described in Caputo's sense. It shows that the homotopy analysis method not only is efficient for classical differential equations, but also is a powerful tool for dealing with nonlinear differential equations with fractional derivatives.

**Key words:** Nonlinear Differential Equation; Homotopy Analysis; Fractional Derivative.

### 1. Introduction

Most problems in science and engineering are nonlinear. Thus, it is important to develop efficient methods to solve them. In the past decades, with the fast development of high-quality symbolic computing software, such as Maple, Mathematica and Matlab, analytic as well as numerical techniques for nonlinear differential equations have been developed quickly. The homotopy analysis method (HAM) [1–5] is one of the most effective methods to construct analytically approximate solutions of nonlinear differential equations. This method has been applied to a wide range of nonlinear differential equations. Compared with the traditional analytic approximation tools, such as the perturbation method [6–9], the  $\delta$ -expansion method [10], and the Adomian decomposition method [11–13], the HAM provides a convenient way to control and adjust the convergence range and the rate of approximation. Also, the HAM is valid even if a nonlinear problem does not contain a small or large parameter. In addition, it can be employed to approximate a nonlinear problem by choosing different sets of base functions.

In recent years, considerable interest in fractional differential equations has been stimulated due to their numerous applications in physics and engineering [14]. For instance for the propagation of waves through a fractal medium or diffusion in a disordered system it is reasonable to formulate the structure of the nonlinear evolution equations in terms of fractional derivatives rather than in the classical form. Furthermore, we know that many nonlinear differential equations exhibit strange attractors and their solutions have

been discovered to move toward strange attractors [15]. Such strange attractors are fractals by definition. We therefore aim to deal with fractal nonlinear differential equations rather than with classical forms of them. In this paper, we employ the HAM to solve fractional nonlinear differential equations. Some examples are used to illustrate the effectiveness of this method. It is shown that the HAM is efficient not only for classical differential equations but also for differential equations with fractional derivatives.

### 2. Fractional Integration and Differentiation

In this section, let us first recall essentials of the fractional calculus. Fractional calculus is the name of the theory of integrals and derivatives of arbitrary order, which unifies and generalizes the notions of integer-order differentiation and  $n$ -fold integration. There are many books [14, 16–18] that develop the fractional calculus and various definitions of fractional integration and differentiation, such as Grunwald-Letnikov's definition, Riemann-Liouville's definition, Caputo's definition and the generalized function approach. For the purpose of this paper, the Caputo derivative as well as the Riemann-Liouville integral will be used.

Let  $\mathcal{D}_x^\alpha$  denote the differential operator in the sense of Caputo [19], defined by

$$\mathcal{D}_x^\alpha f(x) = \mathcal{I}^{m-\alpha} \mathcal{D}^m f(x), \quad (2.1)$$

where  $m-1 < \alpha \leq m$ ,  $f$  is a (in general nonlinear) function,  $\mathcal{D}^m$  the usual integer differential operator of

Are you tired of struggling with complex nonlinear differential equations that seem impossible to solve? Look no further! In this in-depth article, we will introduce you to the Homotopy Analysis Method (HAM), a powerful mathematical technique that

can revolutionize the way you approach and solve nonlinear differential equations.

## The Essence of Homotopy Analysis Method

The Homotopy Analysis Method, developed by Dr. Shijun Liao in the early 1990s, provides a systematic way to find approximate analytical solutions for various types of nonlinear differential equations. Unlike traditional techniques that rely heavily on numerical methods or perturbation theory, HAM combines analytical and numerical approaches to obtain more accurate solutions.



## Homotopy Analysis Method in Nonlinear Differential Equations

by Shijun Liao(2012th Edition, Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5



The key idea behind HAM is to construct a homotopy between a simplified linearized equation, for which the solution is known, and the original nonlinear equation. By introducing a so-called convergence control parameter, HAM adjusts the solution algorithm to converge to the desired solution. This amazing method allows researchers and scientists to effectively tackle complex problems that were previously deemed intractable.

## Advantages of Homotopy Analysis Method

The Homotopy Analysis Method offers several advantages over alternative techniques:

- **Accuracy:** HAM provides accurate solutions for a wide range of nonlinear differential equations, even in the presence of strong nonlinearity.
- **Flexibility:** Unlike many other numerical methods, HAM does not impose strict conditions on the differential equation, making it applicable to various nonlinear systems.
- **Efficiency:** HAM requires fewer iterations compared to traditional numerical methods, resulting in faster convergence and reduced computational burden.
- **Convergence Control:** The convergence control parameter in HAM allows users to adjust the convergence speed and obtain desired approximate solutions.

## Applications of Homotopy Analysis Method

Homotopy Analysis Method has found numerous applications across different scientific disciplines:

- **Engineering:** HAM has been extensively used in various branches of engineering, such as civil, mechanical, and electrical engineering, to solve nonlinear differential equations arising from real-world problems.
- **Physics:** Physicists have found HAM to be a valuable tool for studying complex physical phenomena described by nonlinear equations, including fluid dynamics, quantum mechanics, and general relativity.
- **Biology:** HAM has been successfully employed in modeling biological systems, uncovering underlying patterns and predicting behaviors in areas such as epidemiology, population dynamics, and gene regulatory networks.

- **Finance:** Financial analysts have utilized HAM to model and analyze nonlinear dynamics in financial markets, leading to improved understanding of complex interactions and more accurate predictions.

The Homotopy Analysis Method is an innovative and powerful technique that offers a new perspective on solving nonlinear differential equations. Its versatility, accuracy, efficiency, and convergence control make it an essential tool for researchers and scientists working on complex problems in various fields.

With the Homotopy Analysis Method in your arsenal, you can tackle challenging nonlinear equations head-on and unlock groundbreaking discoveries. So why wait? Start exploring the power of HAM today and revolutionize your approach to problem-solving!



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"Homotopy Analysis Method in Nonlinear Differential Equations" presents the latest developments and applications of the analytic approximation method for highly nonlinear problems, namely the homotopy analysis method (HAM). Unlike perturbation methods, the HAM has nothing to do with small/large physical parameters. In addition, it provides great freedom to choose the equation-type of

linear sub-problems and the base functions of a solution. Above all, it provides a convenient way to guarantee the convergence of a solution. This book consists of three parts. Part I provides its basic ideas and theoretical development. Part II presents the HAM-based Mathematica package BVPh 1.0 for nonlinear boundary-value problems and its applications. Part III shows the validity of the HAM for nonlinear PDEs, such as the American put option and resonance criterion of nonlinear travelling waves. New solutions to a number of nonlinear problems are presented, illustrating the originality of the HAM. Mathematica codes are freely available online to make it easy for readers to understand and use the HAM.

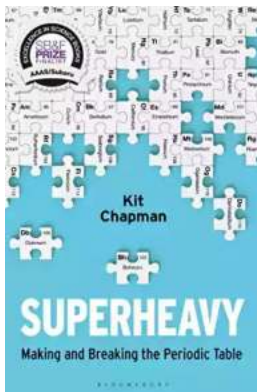
This book is suitable for researchers and postgraduates in applied mathematics, physics, nonlinear mechanics, finance and engineering.

Dr. Shijun Liao, a distinguished professor of Shanghai Jiao Tong University, is a pioneer of the HAM.



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