

# ON SOLUTION OF FIRST ORDER INITIAL VALUE PROBLEMS USING LAPLACE TRANSFORM IN FUZZY ENVIRONMENT

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## Abstract

This study aimed at solving a nonhomogeneous linear first order initial value problem by means of Laplace transform method in fuzzy environment. The conditions for a fuzzy function to be  $H$ -differentiable and  $gH$ -differentiability are well established. Finally, example is constructed to test the applicability or otherwise of the established results.

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**Keywords:**  $H$ -differentiable,  $gH$ -Differentiability, Fuzzy Initial Value Problem.  
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## 1 Introduction

The study of fuzzy differential equation (FDE) has been extensively developed in recent years. FDE is considered as a proven important topic based on theoretical points of view. The idea of fuzzy number and fuzzy arithmetic were first introduced by Zadeh [1] and Dubois and Parade [2]. The term "Fuzzy Differential Equation" was conceptualized in 1978 by Kandel and Byatt [3] and right after two years, a larger version was published in [4]. The study of fuzzy differential in modelling hydraulic differential servo cylinders and fuzzy sets and systems were extensively discussed in [5] and [6] respectively. Fuzzy differential equations and initial value problem were extensively studied by other authors (see [7], [8] & [9]). Also problems involving simulation of continuous fuzzy systems as well as linear non homogeneous ODE in fuzzy environment can be found in [10] and [11] respectively. Recently FDE has also used in many models such as HIV model [12], decay model [13], predator-prey and population models [14], civil engineering [15], modeling hydraulic. See also [16] and [17] for solutions of first order linear homogeneous ordinary differential equation by Laplace transform, a fish population problem in [18], an imprecise barometric pressure problem discussed in [19], an elementary application of population dynamics model in [20] and as well as arm race model considered in [21].

This paper presents a solution of nonhomogeneous first order linear fuzzy initial value problem by applying fuzzy Laplace transform method and established conditions for a fuzzy function to be H-differentiable and gH-differentiability respectively. Consider equation

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = kx + x_0 \quad (1.1)$$

with initial condition  $x(t_0) = \gamma$ . Equation (1.1) is called fuzzy ordinary differential equation (FODE) if any one of the following three cases holds:

- i Only  $\gamma$  is a generalized fuzzy number (Type-I).
- ii Only  $k$  is a generalized fuzzy number (Type-II).
- iii Both  $k$  and  $\gamma$  are generalized fuzzy numbers (Type-III).

Let the solution of equation (1.1) be  $x(t)$  and its  $\alpha$ -cut be  $x(t, \alpha) = [x_1(t, \alpha), x_2(t, \alpha)]$ .

If  $x_1(t, \alpha) \leq x_2(t, \alpha), \forall \alpha \in [0, \omega], 0 < \omega \leq 1$ , then  $x(t)$  is called strong solution otherwise  $x(t)$  is called weak solution and in that case  $\alpha$ -cut of the solution is given by

$$x(t, \alpha) = \left[ \min x_1(t, \alpha), x_2(t, \alpha), \max x_1(t, \alpha), x_2(t, \alpha) \right] \left( \text{see 1001[21]} \right)$$

The  $\alpha$ -level or level of confidence at level  $\alpha$  of fuzzy set  $A$  of  $X$  is a crisp set  $A_\alpha$  that contains all the elements of  $X$  that have membership values in  $A$  greater than or equal to  $\alpha$  i.e.

$$A = \left( x, \mu_A(x) \geq \alpha, x \in X, \alpha \in [0, 1] \right).$$

$A \in \tilde{F}$  is called a fuzzy number where  $R$  denotes the set of whole real numbers if

- i  $\tilde{A}$  is normal i.e.  $x_0 \in R$  exists such that  $\mu_{\tilde{A}}(x) = 1$ .
- ii  $\forall \alpha \in (0, 1], A_\alpha$  is a closed interval.

If  $A$  is a fuzzy number then  $\tilde{A}$  is a convex fuzzy set and if  $\mu_{\tilde{A}}(x) = 1$  then  $\mu_{\tilde{A}}(x)$  is non decreasing for  $x \leq x_0$  and non-increasing for  $x \geq x_0$ . The membership function of a fuzzy number  $\tilde{A}(a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4)$  is defined by

$$\mu_{\tilde{A}}(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \in [a_1, a_2] \neq \phi \\ L(x), & a_1 \leq x \leq a_2 \\ R(x), & a_3 \leq x \leq a_4 \end{cases}$$

where  $L(x)$  denotes an increasing function and  $0 < L(x) \leq 1$ ,  $R(x)$  denotes a decreasing function and  $0 \leq R(x) \leq 1$ . A generalized fuzzy number is called a generalized triangular fuzzy number if it is defined by  $\tilde{A} = (a_1, a_2, a_3, \omega)$  and its membership function is given by

$$\mu_{\tilde{A}}(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \leq a_1 \\ \omega \frac{x - a_1}{a_2 - a_1}, & a_1 \leq x \leq a_2 \\ \omega \frac{a_3 - x}{a_3 - a_2}, & a_2 \leq x \leq a_3 \\ 0, & x \geq a_3 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{or } \mu_{\tilde{A}}(x) = \max\left(\min\left(\omega \frac{x - a_1}{a_2 - a_1}, \omega, \omega \frac{a_3 - x}{a_3 - a_2}\right), 0\right)$$

A generalize trapezoidal fuzzy number is a subset of  $R$  denoted as  $\tilde{A}_{GT} = (a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4; \omega)$  with the following membership function as follows

$$\mu_{\tilde{A}}(x) = \begin{cases} \omega \frac{x - a_1}{a_2 - a_1}, & a_1 \leq x \leq a_2 \\ \omega, & a_2 \leq x \leq a_3 \\ \omega \frac{a_3 - x}{a_3 - a_2}, & a_3 \leq x \leq a_4 \\ 0, & x \geq a_4 \end{cases}$$

To set conditions for fuzzy function to be  $H$ -differentiable and  $gH$ -differentiable respectively, let  $f : (a, b) \rightarrow R_{\tilde{F}}$  and  $t_0 \in (a, b)$ , if  $\exists f'(t_0) \in R_{\tilde{F}}$  such that  $\forall h > 0$  sufficiently small,  $\exists f'(t_0)$  such that:

- i  $f'(t_0)$  is H-differentiable, then  $f'(t_0)$  is called fuzzy derivative of  $f(t)$ .
- ii If  $f'(t_0)$  is gH-differentiable, then  $f'(t_0)$  is called generalized fuzzy derivative of  $f(t)$ .

A function  $f : T \rightarrow E$  is said to be Hukuhara differentiable at  $t_0 \in T$ , if there exists an element  $f'(t_0) \in E$  such that for all  $h > 0$  sufficiently small. In other words, there exists

$$f(t_0 + h)\underline{H}f(t_0), f(t_0)\underline{H}f(t_0 - h), f(t_0 + h)\underline{H}f(t_0), f(t_0)\underline{H}f(t_0 - h)$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(t_0 + h)\underline{H}f(t_0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(t_0)\bar{H}f(t_0 - h)}{h} = f'(t_0)$$

## 2 Methodology

To apply the Laplace transform method, we assume that the solution to equation (1.1) is piecewise continuous on a given interval  $(a, b)$ . In order to take the Laplace transform of equation (1.1), we need to obtain the transform of the derivative of the function. The idea of a transform is that, it turns a given function into another function. That is;

- i The derivative  $D$  takes a differentiable function  $f$  (defined on some interval  $(a, b)$ ) and assigned to it a new function  $Df = f'$ .
- ii The integral  $I$  takes a continuous function  $f$  (defined on some interval  $[a, b]$ ) and assigned to it a new function  $If(x) = \int_a^x f(t)dt$ .
- iii The multiplication operator  $M_\phi$ , which multiplies any given function  $f$  on the interval  $[a, b]$  by a fixed function  $\phi$  on  $[a, b]$ , is a transform:  $M_\phi f(x) = \phi(x).f(x)$ .

A key to the use of Laplace transform theory in differential equations is the way that  $L$  treats derivatives. This means that

$$L[y'] = \int_0^\infty e^{-px} y'(x) dx$$

In general,

$$L\left[f^n(t)\right] = s^n f(s) - s^{n-1} f(0) - s^{n-2} f'(0) - s^{n-3} f''(0) - s^{n-4} f'''(0) - \dots - f^{n-1}(0)$$

### 3 Results

This section presents the results we obtained for the generalized Hukahara differentiability by applying fuzzy Laplace transform method to a given equation. Therefore, consider a nonhomogeneous equation

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = kx \pm t^2 \quad (3.1)$$

where  $k$  is a constant with fuzzy initial condition  $x(t_o) = \gamma$  as it also appeared in equation (1.1) above. Equation (3.1) is also called FODE if any one of the conditions (i) – (iii) for equation (1.1) holds.

Let  $y'(t) = (\underline{y}'(t, \alpha), \bar{y}'(t, \alpha))$

$$L\left[f\left(t, y(t), y'(t)\right)\right] = \left\{p^2 L\left[y(t) - py_o\right]\right\} - z_o \quad (3.2)$$

Hence

$$L\left[\underline{f}\left(t, y(t), y'(t), \alpha\right)\right] = p^2 L\left[\underline{y}(t, \alpha)\right] - p\underline{y}_o(\alpha) - \underline{z}_o(\alpha) \quad (3.3)$$

$$L\left[\bar{f}\left(t, y(t), y'(t), \alpha\right)\right] = p^2 L\left[\bar{y}(t, \alpha)\right] - p\bar{y}_o(\alpha) - \bar{z}_o(\alpha) \quad (3.4)$$

where

$$L\left[\underline{f}\left(t, y(t), y'(t), \alpha\right)\right] = \min\left\{f\left(t, u, v\right), u \in \left(\underline{y}(t, \alpha), \bar{y}(t, \alpha)\right), v \in \left(\underline{y}'(t, \alpha), \bar{y}'(t, \alpha)\right)\right\}$$

and

$$L\left[\bar{f}\left(t, y(t), y'(t), \alpha\right)\right] = \min\left\{f\left(t, u, v\right), u \in \left(\underline{y}(t, \alpha), \bar{y}(t, \alpha)\right), v \in \left(\underline{y}'(t, \alpha), \bar{y}'(t, \alpha)\right)\right\}$$

Therefore, the solution of equation (3.4) is obtained and therefore, presented below.

$$L\left[\underline{y}(t, \alpha)\right] = H_1(p, \alpha) \quad (3.5)$$

$$L\left[\bar{y}(t, \alpha)\right] = K_1(p, \alpha) \quad (3.6)$$

Taking the inverse Laplace transform of equation (3.5) and (3.6), the following are obtained

$$\underline{y}(t, \alpha) = L^{-1}\left[H_1(p, \alpha)\right] \quad (3.7)$$

and

$$\bar{y}(t, \alpha) = L^{-1} \left[ K_1(p, \alpha) \right] \quad (3.8)$$

where  $H_1(p, \alpha)$  and  $K_1(p, \alpha)$  are solved using the assumption that the fuzzy linear function  $f$  is given by

$$f \left( t, y(t), y'(t) \right) = ay(t) + by'(t) + c(t),$$

which is a crisp mapping and

$$H_1(p, \alpha) = L \left[ \underline{y}(t, \alpha) \right] = \frac{(p-b)\underline{y}_0(\alpha) + \underline{z}_0(\alpha) + L \left[ c(t) \right]}{p^2 - bp - a} \quad (3.9)$$

$$K_1(p, \alpha) = L \left[ \bar{y}(t, \alpha) \right] = \frac{(p-b)\bar{y}_0(\alpha) + \bar{z}_0(\alpha) + L \left[ c(t) \right]}{p^2 - bp - a} \quad (3.10)$$

$$\left[ f'(t) \right]_{\alpha} = \left[ f'_2(t_o, \alpha), f'_1(t_o, \alpha) \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} L \left[ f \left( t, y(t), y'(t) \right) \right] &= L \left[ ay'(t) + by''(t) \right] \\ &= aL \left[ y'(t) \right] + bL \left[ y''(t) \right] \\ &= a \left[ sf(s) - f(0) \right] + b \left[ sf(s) - sf(0) - f'(0) \right] \\ &= (a+b)sL \left[ \underline{y}(t, \alpha) \right] - (a-bs)\underline{y}_0(\alpha) - b\underline{y}'(\alpha) \end{aligned}$$

As a result of equations (3.2) and (3.3) we obtain,

$$(a+b)pL \left[ \underline{y}(t, \alpha) \right] - (a-bp)\underline{y}_0(\alpha) - b\underline{y}'(\alpha) = p^2L \left[ \underline{y}(t, \alpha) \right] - p\underline{y}_0(\alpha) - \underline{z}_0(\alpha) \quad (3.11)$$

solving equation (3.4) we arrive at

$$(a+b)pL \left[ \underline{y}(t, \alpha) \right] - p^2L \left[ \underline{y}(t, \alpha) \right] = b\underline{y}'(\alpha) + (a-bp)\underline{y}_0(\alpha) - p\underline{y}_0(\alpha) - \underline{z}_0(\alpha) \quad (3.12)$$

Rearranging equation (3.5) we have,

$$L \left[ \underline{y}(t, \alpha) \right] = \frac{b\underline{y}'(\alpha) + (a-bp-p)\underline{y}_0(\alpha) - \underline{z}_0(\alpha)}{ap+bp-p^2}, \quad (3.13)$$

which is

$$(a+b)pL \left[ \bar{y}(t, \alpha) \right] - (a-b)p\bar{y}_0(\alpha) - b\bar{y}'(\alpha) = p^2L \left[ \bar{y}(t, \alpha) \right] - p\bar{y}_0(\alpha) - \bar{z}_0(\alpha), \quad (3.14)$$

Also we solve equation (3.7) to obtain

$$L\left[\bar{y}(t, \alpha)\right] = \frac{b\bar{y}'(\alpha) + (a - bp - p)\bar{y}_0(\alpha) - \bar{z}_0(\alpha)}{ap + bp - p^2}, \quad (3.15)$$

Therefore,

$$H_{a_1}(t, \alpha) = \frac{b\bar{y}'(\alpha) + (a - bp - p)\bar{y}_0(\alpha) - \bar{z}_0(\alpha)}{ap + bp - p^2} \quad (3.16)$$

$$K_{a_1}(t, \alpha) = \frac{b\bar{y}'(\alpha) + (a - bp - p)\bar{y}_0(\alpha) - \bar{z}_0(\alpha)}{ap + bp - p^2} \quad (3.17)$$

and finally,

$$apL\left[\underline{y}(t, \alpha)\right] + bpL\left[\underline{y}(t, \alpha)\right] - a\bar{y}_0(\alpha) + bp\bar{y}_0(\alpha) - b\bar{y}'(\alpha) = p^2L\left[\underline{y}(t, \alpha)\right] - p\underline{y}_0(\alpha) - \underline{z}_0(\alpha) \quad (3.18)$$

Rearranging equation (3.18) we have

$$(a + b)pL\left[\underline{y}(t, \alpha)\right] - p^2L\left[\underline{y}(t, \alpha)\right] = b\bar{y}'(\alpha) + a\bar{y}_0(\alpha) - bp\bar{y}_0(\alpha) - p\underline{y}_0(\alpha) - \underline{z}_0(\alpha), \quad (3.19)$$

$$(ap + bp - p^2)L\left[\underline{y}(t, \alpha)\right] = (a - bp - p)\underline{y}_0(\alpha) + b\bar{y}'_0(\alpha) - \underline{z}_0(\alpha), \quad (3.20)$$

$$L\left[\bar{y}(t, \alpha)\right] = \frac{(a - bp - p)\underline{y}_0(\alpha) + b\bar{y}'_0(\alpha) - \underline{z}_0(\alpha)}{ap + bp - p^2} \quad (3.21)$$

Similarly,

$$L\left[\underline{y}(t, \alpha)\right] = \frac{(a - bp - p)\bar{y}_0(\alpha) + b\bar{y}'_0(\alpha) - \bar{z}_0(\alpha)}{ap + bp - p^2} \quad (3.22)$$

Therefore,

$$H_{b_1}(t, \alpha) = \frac{(a - bp - p)\bar{y}_0(\alpha) + b\bar{y}'_0(\alpha) - \bar{z}_0(\alpha)}{ap + bp - p^2} \quad (3.23)$$

$$K_{b_1}(t, \alpha) = \frac{(a - bp - p)\bar{y}_0(\alpha) + b\bar{y}'_0(\alpha) - \bar{z}_0(\alpha)}{ap + bp - p^2} \quad (3.24)$$

Based on what we obtained above therefore, an example is constructed below to test the applicability or otherwise the established results. Consider the first order FODE

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 3p^2 + t$$

where  $p^2$  is a constant. To solve this type of equation we need to consider the following four cases as indicated in this paper.

**Case I:** Assume that if  $f(x)$  and  $f'(x)$  are (i)-differentiable, then applying equation (3.23) to  $f(x)$  and  $f'(x)$  respectively gives the following results to

$$L[f'(x)] = pL[f(x)](-)f(0) \text{ and}$$

$$L[f''(x)] = pL[f'(x)](-)f'(0).$$

Combining the two identities yields the result,

$$\begin{aligned} L[f''(x)] &= p\left\{pL[f(x)](-)f(0)\right\}(-)f'(0) \\ &= \left\{p^2L[f(x)](-)pf(0)\right\}(-)f'(0) \end{aligned}$$

**Case II:** Assume that  $f(x)$  is (i)-differentiable and  $f'(x)$  is (ii)-differentiable, then applying equation (3.24) to  $f(x)$  and  $f'(x)$  respectively results to

$$L[f'(x)] = pL[f(x)](-)f(0) \text{ and}$$

$$L[f''(x)] = (-f'(0))(-)(-p)Lf'(x) .$$

Combining these identities yields the desired result,

$$\begin{aligned} L[f''(x)] &= (-f'(0))(-)(-p)\left\{pL[f(x)](-)f(0)\right\} \\ &= (-f'(0))(-)\left\{-p^2L[f(x)](-)(-pf(0))\right\} \end{aligned}$$

**Case III:** If  $f(x)$  is (ii)-differentiable and  $f'(x)$  is (i)-differentiable, then applying equation (3.23) to  $f(x)$  and  $f'(x)$  respectively we have,

$$L[f'(x)] = (-f(0))(-)(-p)L[f(x)] \text{ and}$$

$$L[f''(x)] = pL[f'(x)](-)f'(0)$$

Again combining the two identities we obtain,

$$\begin{aligned} L[f''(x)] &= p\left\{(-f(0))(-)(-p)L[f(x)]\right\}(-)f'(0) \\ &= -\left\{(-pf(0))(-)(-p^2)L[f(x)]\right\}(-)f'(0) \end{aligned}$$

Lastly,

**Case IV:** If both  $f(x)$  and  $f'(x)$  are (ii)-differentiable and then equation (3.23) & (3.24) is applied to them respectively, the result obtained is presented thus;

$$L\left[f'(x)\right] = (-f(0))(-)(-p)L\left[f(x)\right] \text{ and}$$
$$L\left[f''(x)\right] = (-f'(0))(-)(-p)L\left[f'(x)\right]$$

Combining these identities we have,

$$\begin{aligned} L\left[f''(x)\right] &= (-f'(0))(-)(-p)\left\{(-f(0))(-)(-p)L\left[f(x)\right]\right\} \\ &= -(f'(0))(-)\left\{pf(0)(-p^2)L\left[f(x)\right]\right\} \end{aligned}$$

## 4 Conclusion

It is of importance here to state that the example constructed and solved based on the results we established in this work has further justified our claims and the possibilities of solving linear non-homogeneous first order ODE in fuzzy environment by means of fuzzy Laplace transform method. All the conditions considered and referred to are well satisfied and the results obtained are valid for the solution of generalized fuzzy initial valued problem of linear nonhomogeneous type.

## 5 Declarations of interest

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