

# Solution of Second Order Linear and Nonlinear Two Point Boundary Value Problems Using Legendre Operational Matrix of Differentiation

Abdurkadir Edeo\*

*Bule Hora University, College of Natural and Computational Sciences, Department of Mathematics, Bule Hora  
144, Ethiopia*

*Email: edeoabdurkadir@gmail.com*

## Abstract

In this paper, an approach using Tau method based on Legendre operational matrix of differentiation [2&5] has been addressed to find the solutions of second order linear and nonlinear two point boundary value problems of ordinary differential equations. In the implementation of this approach, the given second order two point boundary problems is converted into a system of algebraic equations, whose solutions are the Legendre coefficients. The validity and efficiency of the method has also been illustrated with numerical examples supported by graphs.

**Keywords:** Boundary Value Problems (BVPs); Legendre Operational Matrix of Differentiation; Linear and nonlinear ordinary differential equations.

## 1. Introduction

According to [1], second order two point boundary value problems of ordinary differential equations are equations of the form

$y'' = f(x, y, y')$  ,  $a \leq x \leq b$ , With the boundary conditions on the solution prescribed by

$y(a) = \alpha$  ,  $y(b) = \beta$ , for some constants  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .

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\* Corresponding author.

Second order differential equations with various types of boundary conditions are among many of linear and nonlinear problems occurring in science and engineering which can be solved either analytically or numerically [3]. Second order two point Boundary value problems are encountered in many engineering fields including optimal control, beam deflections, heat flow, and various dynamical systems [4]. In the literature of numerical analysis for solving a two point second order boundary value problem (BVP) of differential equations, many authors have attempted to obtain higher accuracy rapidly by using a numerous methods. Among various numerical techniques, finite difference method has been widely used but it takes more computational costs to get high accuracy [3]. In [4] the author has applied a cubic B-spline method to find the solutions of both linear and nonlinear second order two point BVPs of ordinary differential equations. The authors in [6] have used an extended cubic B-spline method for solving linear two point BVPs. In [7] the authors found the solution of two point boundary value problems using quartic B-spline method. But these B-spline methods require dividing the interval  $[a, b]$  into  $n$  subintervals and the construction of cubic or extended cubic B-splines in each subinterval. In addition with these methods we need to solve  $n + 1$  systems of linear or nonlinear equations to arrive at better accuracy. Therefore, like the finite difference method these methods are also computational too cost. In [8] the authors have developed Galerkin method to approximate the solution of second order Neumann and Cauchy linear boundary value problems. The authors in [9] derived a new difference scheme for solving the linear and nonlinear second order two-point boundary value problem by using the quartic spline interpolation and Taylor expansion.

Finding the solution of ordinary differential equations numerically is not only concerned with getting better accuracy. It is also concerned with saving computational speed and effort. This paper is therefore aimed at finding the solutions of general second order linear and nonlinear two point boundary value problems of ordinary differential equations of the form:

$$y''(x) + p(x)y'(x) + f(x, y) = g(x), 0 \leq x \leq 1 \quad (1.1)$$

Subject to the boundary conditions:

$$y(0) = \alpha, \quad y(1) = \beta \quad (1.2)$$

by using Legendre operational matrix of differentiation.

This study is a contribution towards finding the solutions of second order linear and nonlinear two point boundary value problems of ordinary differential equations, by using Tau method based on Legendre operational matrix of differentiation. Even though many authors have attempted to obtain higher accuracy rapidly by using a numerous methods like finite difference method and spline methods such as cubic B-spline method, an extended cubic B-spline method and quartic B-spline method, each of these methods are computational too cost and slow when compared to the present method. Thus, the purpose of this study was to find the solutions of second order linear and nonlinear two point boundary value problems of ordinary differential equations, by using Tau method based on Legendre operational matrix of differentiation.

The advantage of this method over the other methods is therefore

- It is computational less cost,
- It needs less computational time and effort and
- It has better accuracy.

The remainder of this paper has been organized in the following order and procedures.

- In section 2 Legendre polynomial and its operational matrix of differentiation has been discussed.
- In section 3 the application of this method has been discussed in brief.
- In section 4 this method has been used to solve some numerical examples supported by graphs.
- The paper has been concluded and recommended in section 5.

## 2. Legendre Polynomials and its Operational Matrix of Differentiation

Legendre Polynomials are defined on the interval  $[-1,1]$  and can be determined with the aids of the following recurrence formulae [5].

$$L_0(z) = 1, L_1(z) = z$$

$$L_{r+1}(z) = \frac{2r+1}{r+1}(z)L_r(z) - \frac{r}{r+1}L_{r-1}(z); \quad r = 1,2,3, \dots \quad (2.1)$$

In order to use this polynomials on the interval  $[0, 1]$ , the so-called shifted Legendre Polynomials is defined by introducing  $z = 2x - 1$ . Let the shifted Legendre polynomial  $L_r(2x - 1)$  be denoted by  $P_r(x)$ . Then  $P_r(x)$  can be obtained as follows:

$$P_0(x) = 1, P_1(x) = 2x - 1$$

$$P_{r+1}(x) = \frac{2r+1}{r+1}(2x - 1)P_r(x) - \frac{r}{r+1}P_{r-1}(x); \quad r = 1,2,3, \dots \quad (2.2)$$

The analytical form of the shifted Legendre polynomial  $P_r(x)$  of degree  $r$  is given by;

$$P_r(x) = \sum_{k=0}^r (-1)^{r+k} \frac{(r+k)!}{(r-k)!} \frac{x^k}{(k!)^2} \quad (2.3)$$

**NB:**  $P_r(0) = (-1)^r$  and  $P_r(1) = 1$

The orthogonality condition for these shifted Legendre polynomials is:

$$\int_0^1 P_r(x)P_s(x) dx = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2r+1} & \text{for } r = s \\ 0 & \text{for } r \neq s \end{cases} \quad (2.4)$$

Any function  $y(x) \in L^2[0,1]$  can be approximated in terms of  $P_r(x)$  by:

$$\bar{y}(x) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} c_r P_r(x) \quad (2.5)$$

Where the coefficients  $c_r$  are given by

$$c_r = (2r + 1) \int_0^1 y(x) P_r(x) dx ; r = 1,2,3, \dots \tag{2.6}$$

By considering only the first  $m + 1$  terms of the series (2.5) we get;

$$y_m(x) = \sum_{r=0}^m c_r P_r(x) = C^T \varphi(x) \tag{2.7}$$

Where  $C^T = [c_0, c_1, \dots, c_m]$  is the shifted Legendre coefficient and

$$\varphi(x) = [p_0(x), p_1(x), \dots, p_m(x)]^T \text{ is the shifted Legendre vector.}$$

The derivative of the vector  $\varphi(x)$  can be expressed as:

$$\frac{d\varphi(x)}{dx} = D^{(1)} \varphi(x) \tag{2.8}$$

Where  $D^{(1)}$  is  $(m + 1) \times (m + 1)$  operational matrix of derivative which is given by

$$D^{(1)} = (d_{ij}) = \begin{cases} 2(2j + 1) & \text{for } j = i - k \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} ; \quad \begin{cases} k = 1,3, \dots, m & \text{if } m \text{ is odd} \\ k = 1,3, \dots, m - 1 & \text{if } m \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

For example for  $m$  even we have;

$$D^{(1)} = 2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 5 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ 1 & 0 & 5 & 0 & \dots & \tau & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 7 & \dots & 0 & \omega & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ Where } \tau = 2m - 3, \omega = 2m - 1 \tag{2.9}$$

From equation (2.8) it can be generalized for any  $n \in N$  as:

$$\frac{d^n \varphi(x)}{dx^n} = (D^{(1)})^n \varphi(x) = D^{(n)} \varphi(x) , n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \tag{2.10}$$

Where,  $(D^{(1)})^n$  denotes matrix powers.

### 3. Methods and Materials

Consider the general second order two point boundary value problem of ordinary differential equation

$$y''(x) + p(x)y'(x) + f(x, y) = g(x), 0 \leq x \leq 1$$

Subject to the boundary conditions:

$$y(0) = \alpha, y(1) = \beta$$

As in [2], let us approximate  $y(x), p(x), f(x, y)$  and  $g(x)$  by the shifted Legendre polynomials as

$$y(x) = \sum_{r=0}^m c_r P_r(x) = C^T \varphi(x), \tag{3.1}$$

$$p(x) = \sum_{r=0}^m p_r P_r(x) = P^T \varphi(x), \tag{3.2}$$

$$f(x, y) = f(x, C^T \varphi(x)), \tag{3.3}$$

$$g(x) = \sum_{r=0}^m g_r P_r(x) = G^T \varphi(x) \tag{3.4}$$

Where the unknowns are  $C = [c_0, c_1, \dots, c_m]^T$

Using Legendre operational matrix of differentiation, equation (1.1) can be written as

$$C^T D^2 \varphi(x) + P^T D^1 \varphi(x) + f(x, C^T \varphi(x)) \approx G^T \varphi(x) \tag{3.5}$$

The residual  $R_m(x)$  for equation (3.5) can be written as

$$R_m(x) = C^T D^2 \varphi(x) + P^T D^1 \varphi(x) + f(x, C^T \varphi(x)) - G^T \varphi(x) \tag{3.6}$$

Applying typical Tau method, which is used in the sense of particular form of the Petrov-Galerkin method as cited in [2], [5], equation (3.5) can be transformed into  $m - 1$  linear or nonlinear equations by applying

$$\langle R_m(x), P_r(x) \rangle = \int_0^1 R_m(x) P_r(x) dx = 0; \quad r = 0, 1, 2, \dots, m - 2 \tag{3.7}$$

The boundary conditions are given by

$$y(0) = C^T \varphi(0) = d_0, \quad y(1) = C^T \varphi(1) = d_1 \tag{3.8}$$

Equations (3.7) and (3.8) generate  $m + 1$  linear or nonlinear systems of algebraic equations. After solving these equations we obtain the unknowns in vector  $C$  and use them to find  $\bar{y}(x)$ .

#### 4. Numerical Examples

**Example 1:** Consider the second order boundary value problem

$$y'' + y' = x \tag{4.1}$$

With boundary conditions

$$y(0) = 0, \quad y(1) = 1 \tag{4.2}$$

The exact solution is  $y(x) = x$

Substituting equations (4.2) in equation (2.7) we get

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 - c_1 + c_2 &= 0 \\ c_0 + c_1 + c_2 &= 1 \end{aligned} \tag{4.3}$$

For  $m = 2$  from equation (3.7) we get

$$c_1 + 13c_2 = \frac{1}{2} \tag{4.4}$$

Solving a  $3 \times 3$  system of algebraic equations (4.3) and (4.4) to gives

$$c_0 = \frac{1}{2}, \quad c_1 = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad c_2 = 0$$

Thus the approximate solution is now becomes  $\bar{y}(x) = x$  which is the exact solution.

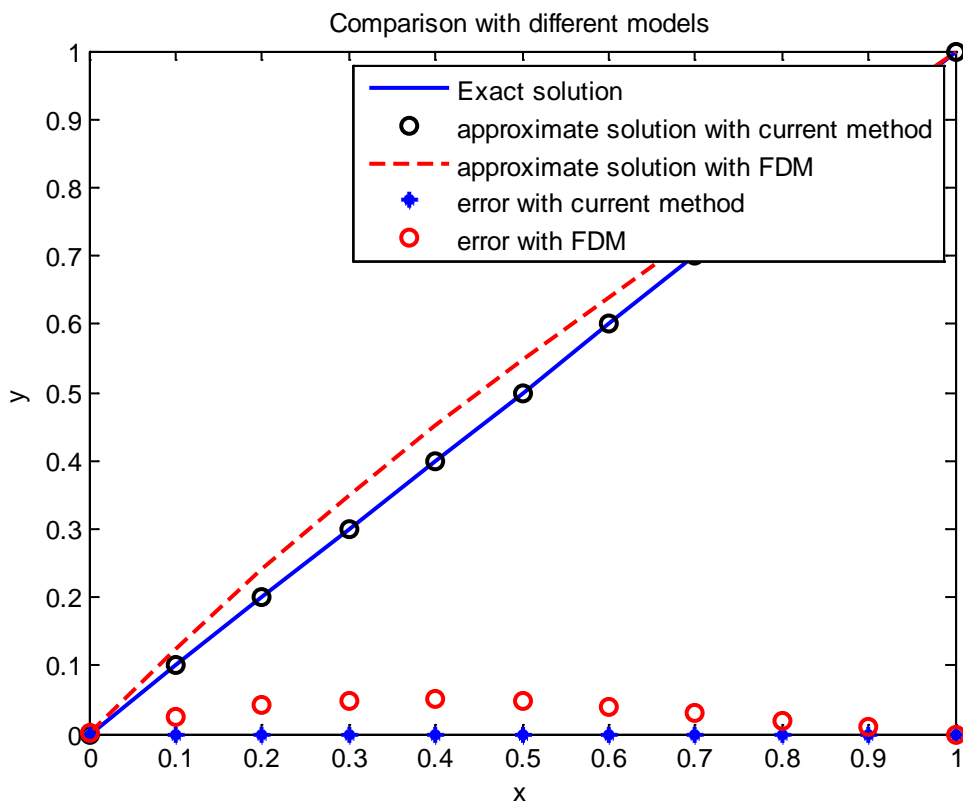


Figure 1: Graphical illustration of example 1

**Example 2:** Consider the second order boundary value problem

$$y'' + y' + \pi^2 y = -\pi \sin(\pi x), \tag{4.5}$$

With boundary conditions

$$y(0) = 1, \quad y(1) = -1 \tag{4.6}$$

The exact solution is  $y(x) = \cos(\pi x)$

Substituting equations (4.6) in equation (2.7) we get

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 - c_1 + c_2 &= 1 \\ c_0 + c_1 + c_2 &= -1 \end{aligned} \tag{4.7}$$

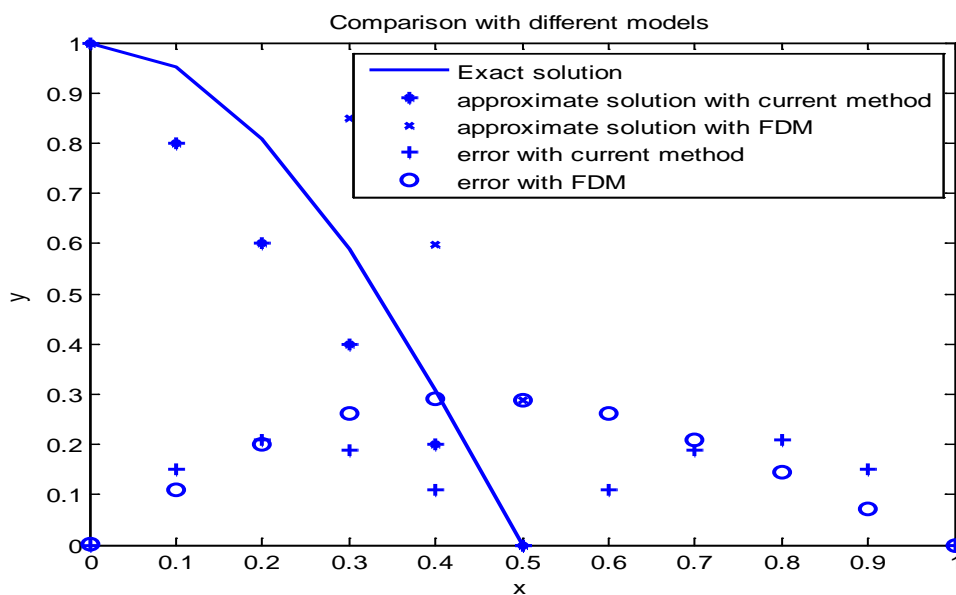
For  $m = 2$  from equation (3.7) we get

$$\pi^2 c_0 + 2c_1 + 12c_2 = -2 \tag{4.8}$$

Solving a  $3 \times 3$  system of algebraic equations (4.7) and (4.8) to gives

$$c_0 = 0, \quad c_1 = -1 \quad \text{and} \quad c_2 = 0$$

Thus the approximate solution is now becomes  $\bar{y}(x) = -2x + 1$



**Figure 2:** Graphical illustration of example 2

**Example 3:** Consider the boundary value problem [4]

$$y'' + y^2 = x^4 + 2, \tag{4.9}$$

With boundary conditions

$$y(0) = 0, y(1) = 1 \tag{4.10}$$

The exact solution is  $y(x) = x^2$

Substituting equations (4.10) in equation (2.7) we get

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 - c_1 + c_2 &= 0 \\ c_0 + c_1 + c_2 &= 1 \end{aligned} \tag{4.11}$$

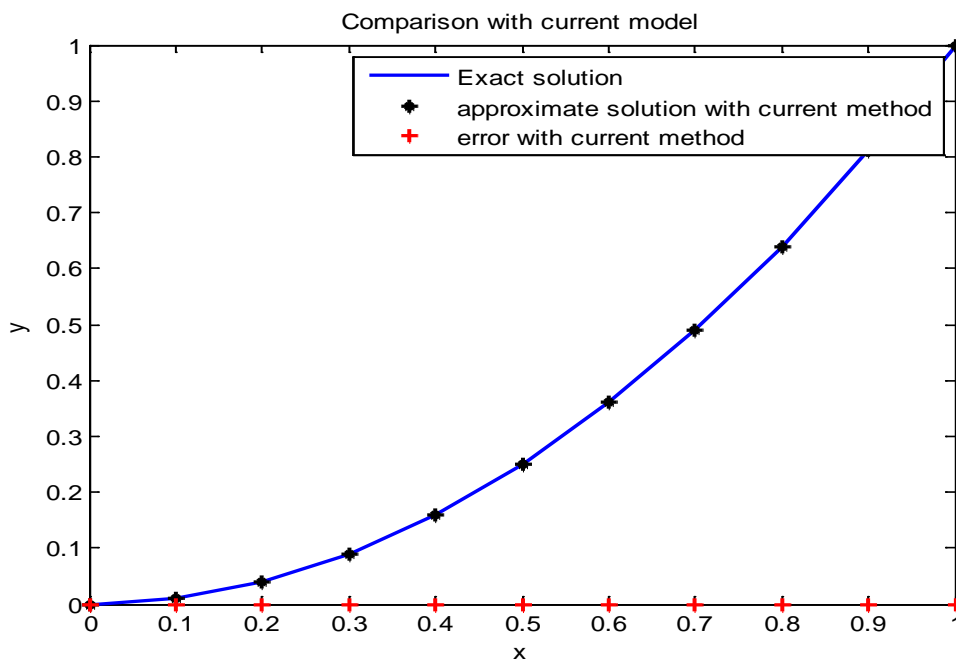
For  $m = 2$  from equation (3.7) we get

$$c_0^2 + \frac{1}{3}c_1^2 + \frac{1}{5}c_2^2 + 12c_2 = \frac{11}{5} \tag{4.12}$$

Solving a  $3 \times 3$  system of algebraic equations (4.11) and (4.12) gives

$$c_0 = \frac{1}{3}, c_1 = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } c_2 = \frac{1}{6}$$

Hence the approximate solution is now becomes  $\bar{y}(x) = x^2$  which is the exact solution.



**Figure 3:** Graphical illustration of example 3



**Example 4:** Consider the boundary value problem

$$y'' + \ln xy' + y^2 = 2 + 2x \ln x + x^4, \tag{4.13}$$

With boundary conditions

$$y(0) = 0, \quad y(1) = 1 \tag{4.14}$$

The exact solution is  $y(x) = x^2$

Substituting equations (4.14) in equation (2.7) we get

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 - c_1 + c_2 &= 0 \\ c_0 + c_1 + c_2 &= 1 \end{aligned} \tag{4.15}$$

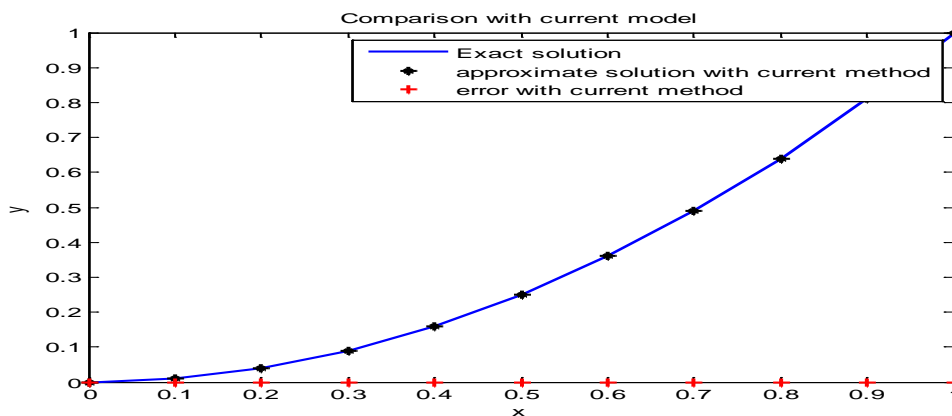
For  $m = 2$  from equation (3.7) we get

$$c_0^2 + \frac{1}{3}c_1^2 + \frac{1}{5}c_2^2 - 2c_1 + 15c_2 = \frac{17}{10} \tag{4.16}$$

Solving a  $3 \times 3$  system of algebraic equations (4.15) and (4.16) gives

$$c_0 = \frac{1}{3}, \quad c_1 = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad c_2 = \frac{1}{6}$$

Hence the approximate solution is now becomes  $\bar{y}(x) = x^2$  which is the exact solution.



**Figure 4:** Graphical illustration of example 4

### 5. Conclusion and Recommendations

For problems in examples 1,3 & 4 where the exact solution are polynomials, the method produces the exact solution itself by just taking  $m = 2$ , and using only first few shifted Legendre polynomials. This makes the method more accurate than others. For problem in example 2, where the exact solution is not polynomial a

better approximation to the exact solution is found when compared to the finite difference method. The other advantage of this method over the other methods like spline methods and finite difference method is that it needs less computational time and effort. In the future, the method can be extended to find the solutions of second order linear and nonlinear two point boundary value problems of partial differential equations.

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