

## ON A SOLUTION OF THE CONVOLUTION TYPE VOLTERRA EQUATION OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> KIND

A.L. Karchevsky<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Sobolev Institute of Mathematics of the Siberian Branch of RAS, Novosibirsk, Russia

**Abstract.** In this work theorems of existence and uniqueness of the solution of the convolution type Volterra integral equation of the 1<sup>st</sup> kind are proved. Necessary and sufficient conditions are formulated for the solution that belongs to class of decomposable in the Fourier series continuous functions whose coefficients tend to zero as  $k^{-(1+\alpha)}$  ( $\alpha > 0$ ). Based on the proofs, a new method for numerical solution of this integral equation is proposed.

**Keywords:** *Volterra integral equation, convolution type equation, numerical solution, necessary and sufficient conditions.*

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**Corresponding Author:** Prof. Andrey Karchevsky, Sobolev Institute of Mathematics of the Siberian Branch of RAS, 4 Acad.Koptyuq avenue, 630090, Novosibirsk, Russia,  
e-mail: [karchevs@math.nsc.ru](mailto:karchevs@math.nsc.ru)

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### 1. Introduction

In this work the theorems of existence and uniqueness of the solution of the convolution type Volterra integral equation of the 1<sup>st</sup> kind are proved. Necessary and sufficient conditions are formulated for the solution that belongs to class of decomposable in the Fourier series continuous functions whose coefficients tend to zero as  $k^{-(1+\alpha)}$  ( $\alpha > 0$ ). Based on the proofs, a new method for numerical solution of this integral equation is proposed.

Usually the problem of existence of the solution of the Volterra integral equation of the 1<sup>st</sup> kind is solved with the help of the converting integral equation of the 1<sup>st</sup> kind to the integral equation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> kind. The existence and uniqueness of the solution of the Volterra integral equation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> kind provides the existence and uniqueness of the solution of the Volterra integral equation of the 1<sup>st</sup> kind. If the conversion to the integral equation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> kind is impossible, then the question of existence of the solution remains open. In some special cases, there are formulas for the solution of the equation of the 1<sup>st</sup> kind. For example, the case of the degenerate kernel (kernel  $K(x, t)$  can be represented in the form  $a_1(x)b_1(t) + \dots + a_n(x)b_n(t)$ , the Abel equation, kernel with logarithmic singularity, etc. These and other examples can be found here [1, p. 28-44]. In the general case for the solution of the convolution type Volterra integral equation of the 1<sup>st</sup> kind the Titchmarsh theorem is known [5]: if the solution exists and the kernel satisfies the known condition, then the solution is unique.

A fair complete the information about theory and practice of solving integral equations of various types can be found in the handbooks [1, 3] and in the Internet page [4].

## 2. Main result

Consider the convolution type Volterra integral equation of the 1st kind

$$\int_0^t K(t-s)f(s)ds = g(t) \quad (1)$$

It is assumed that the right side of  $g(t)$  satisfies the condition  $g(0) = 0$ .

We do not assume that any of the conditions, allowing one to reduce the integral equation (1) to the integral Volterra equation of 2<sup>nd</sup> kind, exist. On the contrary, the case does not allow one to do it (for example,  $K^{(n)}(0) = 0$  ( $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ )), is possible.

Consider the space  $F^\beta[0, T]$  of continuous functions  $f(t)$  on the interval  $[0, T]$ , which can be expanded in a Fourier series

$$f(t) = b_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (a_k \sin(\omega_k t) + b_k \cos(\omega_k t)), \quad \omega_k = 2\pi k/T, \quad (2)$$

here  $|a_k| \leq Ak^{-\beta}$  and  $|b_k| \leq Bk^{-\beta}$  ( $A$  and  $B$  are some nonnegative constants).

Let  $O_0^\varepsilon$  be a punctured  $\varepsilon$ -neighborhood of the point  $t = 0$ .

**Theorem 1.** Let function  $K(t) \not\equiv 0$  be a piecewise continuous function on the interval  $[0, T]$  and  $|K(t)| \leq m_0$ . For the existence of the solution  $f(t) \in F^{1+\alpha}[0, T]$  ( $\alpha > 0$ ) of the integral equation (1) it is necessary and sufficient if the function  $g(t)$  on the interval  $[0, T]$  can be represented in the form

$$g(t) = b_0 g_0(t) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (a_k g_k(t) + b_k g'_k(t)), \quad (3)$$

where

1. function  $g_0(t)$  has the form

$$g_0(t) = \int_0^t K(s)ds, \quad (4)$$

2. functions  $g_k(t)$  ( $k = 1, 2, \dots$ ) solve the problems

$$g_k''(t) + \omega_k^2 g_k(t) = K(t), \quad g_k(0) = 0, \quad g'_k(0) = 0; \quad (5)$$

3.  $|a_k| \leq Ak^{-\alpha}$  and  $|b_k| \leq Bk^{-(1+\alpha)}$  and  $A > 0, B > 0$  and  $b_0$  are some constants.

The solution has the form

$$f(t) = b_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{a_k}{\omega_k} \sin(\omega_k t) + b_k \cos(\omega_k t) \right). \quad (6)$$

**Proof. Necessity.** Let  $f(t) \in F^{1+\alpha}[0, T]$  be the solution of the integral equation (1) where  $\alpha > 0$ . Then due to the uniform convergence of the series (2) the function  $g(t)$  can be represented in the form

$$g(t) = \tilde{b}_0 g_0(t) +$$

$$+ \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \tilde{a}_k \int_0^t K(s) \sin(\omega_k(t-s)) ds + \tilde{b}_k \int_0^t K(s) \cos(\omega_k(t-s)) ds \right).$$

It easy to see that the function

$$g_k(t) = \frac{1}{\omega_k} \int_0^t K(s) \sin(\omega_k(t-s)) ds \quad (7)$$

is a solution of the problem (5) and  $g_k(t) \in C^1[0, T]$ .

Thus the function  $g(t)$  has the form (3) and  $b_0 = \tilde{b}_0$ ,  $a_k = \tilde{a}_k \omega_k$  and  $b_k = \tilde{b}_k$  ( $k = 1, 2, \dots$ ). Due to  $|K(t)| \leq m_0$ , this series converges uniformly, hence it converges to the continuous function. Due to boundary conditions (5)  $g(0) = 0$ .

**Sufficiency.** Let function  $g(t)$  have the form (3). Solution of the problem (5) can be represented in the form (7). It easy to see that the equality

$$\int_0^t K(s) \left[ b_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{a_k}{\omega_k} \sin(\omega_k(t-s)) + b_k \cos(\omega_k(t-s)) \right) \right] ds = g(t)$$

holds. If  $|a_k/\omega_k| \leq 2\pi T^{-1} A k^{-(1+\alpha)}$  and  $|b_k| \leq B k^{-(1+\alpha)}$  then the series in the square brackets converges uniformly, hence it converges to the continuous function  $f(t)$  and  $f(t) \in F^{1+\alpha}[0, T]$ .

Theorem is proved.

If there is such  $\varepsilon > 0$  that  $K(t) \neq 0$  for  $t \in \mathcal{O}_0^\varepsilon$ , then the uniqueness of the solution of the integral equation (1) follows from the Titchmarsh theorem [5] (see also [6, p.49]).

**Theorem 2.** Let the functions  $g^1(t)$  and  $g^2(t)$  can be represented in the form

$$g^i(t) = b_0^i g_0(t) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( a_k^i g_k(t) + b_k^i g_k'(t) \right), \quad i = 1, 2, \quad (8)$$

where  $b_0^i, a_k^i$  and  $b_k^i$  ( $k = \overline{1, k}, i = 1, 2$ ) satisfy the condition 3 from Theorem 1. If  $K(t) \neq 0$

$$|b_0^1 - b_0^2| \leq \delta, \quad |a_k^1 - a_k^2| \leq \delta k^{-\alpha}, \quad |b_k^1 - b_k^2| \leq \delta k^{-(1+\alpha)}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \quad (9)$$

then for the solutions  $f^1(t)$  and  $f^2(t)$  of the integral equation (1) the inequality

$$|f^1(t) - f^2(t)| \leq C \delta \quad (10)$$

holds, where  $C = C(T, \alpha)$  is constant.

**Proof.** First of all, it is clear that the difference  $g(t) = g^1(t) - g^2(t)$  can be represented as (3), therefore, it corresponds to the solution  $f(t) = f^1(t) - f^2(t)$  of the equation (1), which is represented in the form (6).

Rating the difference

$$\begin{aligned} |f^1(t) - f^2(t)| &= \left| b_0^1 - b_0^2 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{a_k^1 - a_k^2}{\omega_k} \sin(\omega_k t) + (b_k^1 - b_k^2) \cos(\omega_k t) \right) \right| \leq \\ &\leq \left[ 1 + (T/2\pi + 1) \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^{1+\alpha}} \right] \delta = [1 + (T/2\pi + 1) \zeta(1 + \alpha)] \delta \equiv C(T, \alpha) \delta, \end{aligned}$$

Where  $\zeta(\bullet)$  is the Riemann  $\zeta$ -function, we get the proof of the theorem.

Theorem is proved.

Note that from Theorem 2 it follows the uniqueness and stability of the solution of the integral equation (1) in  $F^\beta[0, T]$  without the assumption that  $K(t) \neq 0$  for  $t \in Q_0^\varepsilon$ .

### 3. Numerical method for solving the integral equation

The proved theorem enables us to offer a numerical method for solving the convolution type Volterra integral equation of the 1<sup>st</sup> kind, which is not found in the reference literature [1-4]. Let solution of the integral equation (1) should be found on the interval  $[0, T]$ . As a rule, the right side of the equation is known with some error, i.e.,  $g_\delta(t)$  is given.

Let  $g_0(t)$  and  $g_k(t)$  be calculated ( $k = \overline{1, N}$ ) (see (4)-(5)). We need to solve the following minimization problem:

$$J[a_1, \dots, a_N, b_0, b_1, \dots, b_N] \equiv \int_0^T n^2(t) dt \rightarrow \min, \quad (11)$$

where

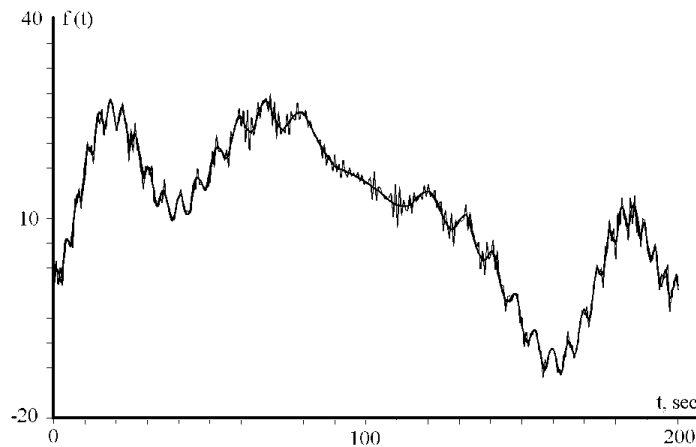
$$n(t) = b_0 g_0(t) + \sum_{k=1}^N (a_k g_k(t) + b_k g'_k(t)) - g_\delta(t).$$

The functional (11) is quadratic and the conjugate gradient method can be used [7] to its minimization.

The efficiency of the proposed method can be shown an example, where

$$K(t) = e^{-1/t}, \quad f(t) = 3 \cdot 10^{-5} t(T-t)(T/2-t) + 2\sin(t(T-t)/100) + 9(1 - \cos(t(T-t)/1000)), \quad T = 200(s),$$

and function  $g(t)$  is calculated with the help of the calculation of the integral (1), after that random error is added to it:  $g_\delta(t) = g(t) + \xi(t) \frac{P}{100}$ , where  $\xi$  is a random value on  $[-1, 1]$  and  $P$  is a percentage of the error. The function  $f(t)$  is chosen in this form because it has a smooth trend component and a small oscillations along its entire length. The result of solving is shown in the figure.



**Figure.** Result of solving the integral equation (1). Smooth line is exact solution, broken line is the result of the numerical solution,  $P = 10\%$ .

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