

# Numerical Solution of Volterra Integral Equations with Weakly Singular Kernels which May Have a Boundary Singularity\*

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Received October 30, 2008; published online February 25, 2009

**Abstract.** We propose a piecewise polynomial collocation method for solving linear Volterra integral equations of the second kind with kernels which, in addition to a weak diagonal singularity, may have a weak boundary singularity. Global convergence estimates are derived and a collection of numerical results is given.

**Key words:** Volterra integral equation, weakly singular kernel, boundary singularity, collocation method.

## 1 Introduction

Let  $C^k(\Omega)$  be the set of all  $k$  times continuously differentiable functions on  $\Omega$ ,  $C^0(\Omega) = C(\Omega)$ . Let  $b \in \mathbb{R} = (-\infty, \infty)$ ,  $b > 0$ ,

$$D_b = \{(x, y) : 0 \leq x \leq b, 0 < y < x\}, \quad \overline{D}_b = \{(x, y) : 0 \leq y \leq x \leq b\}.$$

In many practical applications (see, for example, [3, 5]) there arise integral equations of the form

$$u(x) = \int_0^x K(x, y)u(y)dy + f(x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq b, \quad (1.1)$$

with  $f \in C^m[0, b]$ ,  $K(x, y) = g(x, y)(x - y)^{-\nu}$ ,  $0 < \nu < 1$ ,  $g \in C^m(\overline{D}_b)$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, \dots\}$ . The solution  $u(x)$  to (1.1) is typically non-smooth at  $x = 0$  where its derivatives become unbounded (see, for example, [3, 4, 5, 9]). In collocation methods the singular behaviour of the solution  $u(x)$  can be taken into account by using polynomial splines on special graded grids

$$\Delta_N^r = \{x_0, \dots, x_N : 0 = x_0 < \dots < x_N = b\}$$

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\* This work was supported by EstSF grant No. 7353

with the nodes

$$x_i = b(i/N)^r, \quad i = 0, \dots, N, \quad N \in \mathbb{N}, \quad r \in \mathbb{R}, \quad r \geq 1. \quad (1.2)$$

The parameter  $r$  characterizes the degree of non-uniformity of the grid  $\Delta_N^r$ : if  $r > 1$ , then the nodes  $x_0, \dots, x_N$  of the grid  $\Delta_N^r$  are more densely clustered near the left endpoint of the interval  $[0, b]$  where  $u(x)$  may be singular. By using a collocation method based on the grid  $\Delta_N^r$  and piecewise polynomials of degree at most  $m-1$  one can reach a convergence of order  $\mathcal{O}(N^{-m})$  for  $r \geq m/(1-\nu)$ , see [3, 4, 5]. However, although the piecewise polynomial collocation method on  $\Delta_N^r$  turns out to be stable for solving weakly singular integral equations (see [8]), the realization of this method in case of strongly graded grids  $\Delta_N^r$  by large values of  $r$  may lead to unstable behaviour of numerical results.

To avoid problems associated with the use of strongly graded grids the following approach for solving (1.1) can be used: first we perform in (1.1) a change of variables so that the singularities of the derivatives of the solution will be milder or disappear and after that we solve the transformed equation by a collocation method on a mildly graded or uniform grid. We refer to [13] for details (see also [2, 7, 12]). Note that in [10, 15] similar ideas for solving Fredholm integral equations have been used (see also [6, 11, 16]).

In the present paper we extend the domain of applicability of this approach. To this aim, we examine a more complicated situation for equation (1.1) where the kernel  $K(x, y)$ , in addition to a diagonal singularity (a singularity as  $y \rightarrow x$ ), may have a boundary singularity (a singularity as  $y \rightarrow 0$ ). Actually, we assume that the kernel  $K(x, y)$  has the form

$$K(x, y) = g(x, y)(x - y)^{-\nu}y^{-\lambda}, \quad (x, y) \in D_b, \quad 0 < \nu < 1, \quad 0 \leq \lambda < 1, \quad (1.3)$$

where  $g \in C^m(\overline{D_b})$ ,  $m \in \{0\} \cup \mathbb{N}$ . The set of kernels satisfying (1.3) will be denoted by  $W^{m, \nu, \lambda}(D_b)$ .

Throughout the paper  $c$  denotes a positive constant which may have different values by different occurrences.

## 2 Regularity of the Solution

For given  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $0 < \theta < 1$  let  $C^{m, \theta}(0, b]$  be the set of functions  $u \in C[0, b] \cap C^m(0, b]$  such that

$$|u^{(j)}(x)| \leq cx^{1-\theta-j}, \quad 0 < x \leq b, \quad j = 1, \dots, m. \quad (2.1)$$

It follows from [14] that the regularity of the solution to (1.1) can be characterized by the following result.

**Lemma 1.** *Assume that  $K \in W^{m, \nu, \lambda}(D_b)$  and  $f \in C^{m, \nu+\lambda}(0, b]$  where  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $0 < \nu < 1$ ,  $0 \leq \lambda < 1$ ,  $\nu + \lambda < 1$ . Then equation (1.1) has a unique solution  $u \in C^{m, \nu+\lambda}(0, b]$ .*

### 3 Smoothing Transformation

For given  $\varrho \in [1, \infty)$  denote

$$\varphi(s) = b^{1-\varrho} s^\varrho, \quad 0 \leq s \leq b. \tag{3.1}$$

Clearly,  $\varphi \in C[0, b]$ ,  $\varphi(0) = 0$ ,  $\varphi(b) = b$  and  $\varphi'(s) > 0$  for  $0 < s \leq b$ . Thus,  $\varphi$  maps  $[0, b]$  onto  $[0, b]$  and has a continuous inverse  $\varphi^{-1} : [0, b] \rightarrow [0, b]$ ,

$$\varphi^{-1}(x) = b^{(\varrho-1)/\varrho} x^{1/\varrho}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq b.$$

Note that  $\varphi(s) \equiv s$  for  $\varrho = 1$ . We are interested in a transformation (3.1) with  $\varrho > 1$  since it possesses a smoothing property for  $u(\varphi(s))$  with singularities of  $u'(x), \dots, u^{(m)}(x)$  at  $x = 0$  (see Lemma 2).

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $u \in C^{m,\theta}(0, b]$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $0 < \theta < 1$ , and let  $\varphi$  be the transformation (3.1). Furthermore, let*

$$u_\varphi(s) = u(\varphi(s)), \quad 0 \leq s \leq b.$$

Then  $u_\varphi \in C[0, b] \cap C^m(0, b]$  and

$$|u_\varphi^{(j)}(s)| \leq cs^{\varrho(1-\theta)-j}, \quad 0 < s \leq b, \quad j = 1, \dots, m. \tag{3.2}$$

*Proof.* The smoothness claim is clear. Further, for the derivatives of the composite function  $u_\varphi = u \circ \varphi$ , we have the Faà di Bruno's representation

$$u_\varphi^{(j)}(s) = \sum \frac{j!}{n_1! \dots n_j!} u^{(n)}(\varphi(s)) \left(\frac{\varphi'(s)}{1!}\right)^{n_1} \dots \left(\frac{\varphi^{(j)}(s)}{j!}\right)^{n_j}, \tag{3.3}$$

where  $0 < s \leq b$ ,  $n = n_1 + \dots + n_j$  and the sum is taken over all  $n_1, \dots, n_j \in \{0\} \cup \mathbb{N}$  for which  $n_1 + 2n_2 + \dots + jn_j = j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, m$ . It follows from (2.1), (3.1),  $n = n_1 + \dots + n_j$  and  $n_1 + 2n_2 + \dots + jn_j = j$  that

$$\left| u^{(n)}(\varphi(s)) (\varphi'(s))^{n_1} \dots (\varphi^{(j)}(s))^{n_j} \right| \leq cs^{\varrho(1-\theta)-j}, \quad 0 < s \leq b.$$

This together with (3.3) yields (3.2).  $\square$

*Remark 1.* Instead of (3.1) other transformations are possible. We refer to [13] for a general discussion in this connection.

### 4 Numerical Method

Using (3.1) we introduce in (1.1) the change of variables  $y = \varphi(s)$ ,  $x = \varphi(t)$ ,  $s, t \in [0, b]$ . We obtain an integral equation of the form

$$u_\varphi(t) = \int_0^t K_\varphi(t, s) u_\varphi(s) ds + f_\varphi(t), \quad 0 \leq t \leq b, \tag{4.1}$$

where

$$f_\varphi(t) = f(\varphi(t)), \quad K_\varphi(t, s) = K(\varphi(t), \varphi(s)) \varphi'(s)$$

are given functions and  $u_\varphi(t) = u(\varphi(t))$  is a function which we have to find.

For given integers  $m, N \in \mathbb{N}$  let

$$\begin{aligned} S_{m-1}^{(-1)}(\Delta_N^r) &= \{v_N : v_N|_{[x_{j-1}, x_j]} \in \pi_{m-1}, j = 1, \dots, N\}, \\ S_{m-1}^{(0)}(\Delta_N^r) &= \{v_N \in C[0, b] : v_N|_{[x_{j-1}, x_j]} \in \pi_{m-1}, j = 1, \dots, N\} \end{aligned}$$

be the underlying spline spaces of piecewise polynomial functions on the grid  $\Delta_N^r$  with the nodes (1.2). Here  $v_N|_{[x_{j-1}, x_j]}$  ( $j = 1, \dots, N$ ) is the restriction of  $v_N(t)$ ,  $t \in [0, b]$ , to the subinterval  $[x_{j-1}, x_j] \subset [0, b]$  and  $\pi_{m-1}$  denotes the set of polynomials of degree not exceeding  $m-1$ . Note that the elements of  $S_{m-1}^{(-1)}(\Delta_N^r)$  may have jump discontinuities at the interior knots  $x_1, \dots, x_{N-1}$  of the grid  $\Delta_N^r$ . In every subinterval  $[x_{j-1}, x_j]$  ( $j = 1, \dots, N$ ) we introduce  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  interpolation (collocation) points

$$x_{jl} = x_{j-1} + \eta_l(x_j - x_{j-1}), \quad l = 1, \dots, m; \quad j = 1, \dots, N, \quad (4.2)$$

where  $\eta_1, \dots, \eta_m$  are some fixed (collocation) parameters such that

$$0 \leq \eta_1 < \dots < \eta_m \leq 1. \quad (4.3)$$

We find an approximation  $v_N = v_{N,m,r,\varphi}$  to  $u_\varphi$ , the solution of equation (4.1) (under the conditions of Theorem 1 below the equations (1.1) and (4.1) are uniquely solvable), by collocation method from the following conditions:

$$v_N \in S_{m-1}^{(-1)}(\Delta_N^r), \quad N, m \in \mathbb{N}, \quad r \geq 1, \quad (4.4)$$

$$v_N(x_{jl}) = \int_0^{x_{jl}} K_\varphi(x_{jl}, s) v_N(s) ds + f_\varphi(x_{jl}), \quad l = 1, \dots, m; \quad j = 1, \dots, N, \quad (4.5)$$

with  $x_{jl}$ ,  $l = 1, \dots, m; j = 1, \dots, N$ , given by formula (4.2).

Having determined the approximation  $v_N$  for  $u_\varphi$ , we determine an approximation  $u_N = u_{N,m,r,\varphi}$  for  $u$ , the solution of equation (1.1), setting

$$u_N(x) = v_N(\varphi^{-1}(x)), \quad 0 \leq x \leq b. \quad (4.6)$$

*Remark 2.* The choice of nodes (4.2) with  $\eta_1 = 0$ ,  $\eta_m = 1$  in (4.5) actually implies that the resulting collocation approximation  $v_N$  belongs to the smoother spline space  $S_{m-1}^{(0)}(\Delta_N^r)$  than it is stated by the condition (4.4).

*Remark 3.* The settings (4.4), (4.5) form a linear system of algebraic equations whose exact form is determined by the choice of a basis in  $S_{m-1}^{(-1)}(\Delta_N^r)$ . We refer to [13] for a convenient choice of it.

## 5 Convergence Results

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be Banach spaces. By  $\mathcal{L}(X, Y)$  we denote the Banach space of all linear continuous operators  $A : X \rightarrow Y$  with the norm

$$\|A\|_{\mathcal{L}(X, Y)} = \sup\{\|Az\|_Y : z \in X, \|z\|_X \leq 1\}.$$

By  $C[a, b]$  we denote the Banach space of continuous functions  $z$  on  $[a, b]$  with the usual norm  $\|z\| = \max\{|z(t)| : t \in [a, b]\}$ .

**Theorem 1.** Let  $f \in C[0, b]$  and  $K \in W^{0,\nu,\lambda}(D_b)$ ,  $0 < \nu < 1$ ,  $0 \leq \lambda < 1 - \nu$ . Furthermore, assume that  $\varphi$  is the transformation (3.1) and the interpolation nodes (4.2) with grid points (1.2) and parameters (4.3) are used. Then equation (1.1) has a unique solution  $u \in C[0, b]$ , the settings (4.4)–(4.6) determine for sufficiently large  $N$  a unique approximation  $u_N$  for  $u$  and

$$\|u_N - u\|_\infty \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } N \rightarrow \infty, \tag{5.1}$$

where  $\|u_N - u\|_\infty = \sup_{0 \leq x \leq b} |u_N(x) - u(x)|$ .

*Proof.* We write (4.1) in the form  $u_\varphi = T_\varphi u_\varphi + f_\varphi$  where  $T_\varphi$  is defined by formula

$$(T_\varphi z)(t) = \int_0^t K_\varphi(t, s)z(s) ds, \quad 0 \leq t \leq b.$$

It follows from (1.3) and (3.1) that  $K_\varphi(t, s)$  is continuous in  $D_b$  and

$$|K_\varphi(t, s)| \leq c(t - s)^{-\nu} s^{-\lambda}, \quad (t, s) \in D_b.$$

Since  $\nu + \lambda < 1$ ,  $T_\varphi$  is compact as an operator from  $L^\infty(0, b)$  into  $C[0, b]$ , see [14]. This together with  $f_\varphi \in C[0, b]$  yields that equation  $u_\varphi = T_\varphi u_\varphi + f_\varphi$  (equation (4.1)) has a unique solution  $u_\varphi \in C[0, b]$ . In particular, (1.1) has a unique solution  $u \in C[0, b]$ .

Further, conditions (4.4), (4.5) have the operator equation representation

$$v_N = P_N T_\varphi v_N + P_N f_\varphi, \tag{5.2}$$

where  $P_N$  is an operator which assigns to every continuous function  $z \in C[0, b]$  its piecewise polynomial function  $P_N z \in S_{m-1}^{(-1)}(\Delta_N^r)$  such that  $(P_N z)(x_{jl}) = z(x_{jl})$ ,  $l = 1, \dots, m$ ;  $j = 1, \dots, N$ . It follows from [17] that the norms of  $P_N \in \mathcal{L}(C[0, b], L^\infty(0, b))$  are bounded by a constant  $c$  which is independent of  $N$ ,

$$\|P_N\|_{\mathcal{L}(C[0,b], L^\infty(0,b))} \leq c, \tag{5.3}$$

and

$$\|z - P_N z\|_\infty \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } N \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{for every } z \in C[0, b]. \tag{5.4}$$

Using a standard argumentation (cf. [13, 15, 17]) we obtain that equation (5.2) has for sufficiently large values of  $N$ , say  $N \geq N_0$ , a unique solution  $v_N \in S_{m-1}^{(-1)}(\Delta_N^r)$  and

$$\|v_N - u_\varphi\|_\infty \leq c \|u_\varphi - P_N u_\varphi\|_\infty, \quad N \geq N_0. \tag{5.5}$$

Here  $u_\varphi$  is the solution of equation (4.1) and  $c$  is a positive constant not depending on  $N$ . Since  $u_\varphi \in C[0, b]$ , we get from (5.4) and (5.5) that  $\|v_N - u_\varphi\|_\infty \rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ . This together with

$$\|u_N - u\|_\infty = \|v_N - u_\varphi\|_\infty \tag{5.6}$$

yields (5.1).  $\square$

Next we establish a global convergence result for method (4.4)–(4.6).

**Theorem 2.** *Let the following conditions be fulfilled:*

1.  $K \in W^{m,\nu,\lambda}(D_b)$ ,  $f \in C^{m,\nu+\lambda}(0, b]$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $0 < \nu < 1$ ,  $0 \leq \lambda < 1 - \nu$ ;
2.  $\varphi$  is the transformation (3.1);
3. the interpolation nodes (4.2) with grid points (1.2) and parameters (4.3) are used.

Then the settings (4.4)–(4.6) determine for  $N \geq N_0$  a unique approximation  $u_N$  to  $u$ , the solution to (1.1), and

$$\|u_N - u\|_\infty \leq c \begin{cases} N^{-r\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)} & \text{for } 1 \leq r < \frac{m}{\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)}, \\ N^{-m} & \text{for } r \geq \frac{m}{\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)}, r \geq 1, \end{cases} \quad (5.7)$$

where  $c$  is a positive constant not depending on  $N$ .

*Proof.* On the basis of Lemmas 1 and 2 we find that  $u_\varphi \in C[0, b] \cap C^m(0, b]$  and for every  $s \in (0, b]$  and  $j = 1, \dots, m$ ,

$$|u_\varphi^{(j)}(s)| \leq c \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j \leq \varrho(1 - \nu - \lambda), \\ s^{\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)-j} & \text{if } j > \varrho(1 - \nu - \lambda). \end{cases} \quad (5.8)$$

For a spline  $w_N \in S_{m-1}^{(-1)}(\Delta_N^r)$  denote  $w_{N,j} = w_N|_{[x_{j-1}, x_j]}$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, N$ . Due to (5.3) we get the estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_\varphi - P_N u_\varphi\|_\infty &= \|u_\varphi - w_N - P_N(u_\varphi - w_N)\|_\infty \\ &\leq c \max_{j=1, \dots, N} \max_{x_{j-1} \leq x \leq x_j} |u_\varphi(x) - w_{N,j}(x)|, \end{aligned} \quad (5.9)$$

with a positive constant  $c$  which is independent of  $N$ . We fix  $w_{N,j}$  as a Taylor polynomial for  $u_\varphi(x)$  at  $x = x_j$ :

$$w_{N,j}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \frac{u_\varphi^{(k)}(x_j)}{k!} (x - x_j)^k, \quad x_{j-1} \leq x \leq x_j.$$

The integral form of the reminder term of the  $(m-1)$ th order Taylor approximation of  $u_\varphi(x)$  at  $x = x_j$  and the estimate (5.8) gives us for all  $x \in [x_{j-1}, x_j]$  ( $j = 1, \dots, N$ ) the inequality

$$|u_\varphi(x) - w_{N,j}(x)| \leq c \int_x^{x_j} (s-x)^{m-1} \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } m \leq \varrho(1 - \nu - \lambda) \\ s^{\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)-m} & \text{if } m > \varrho(1 - \nu - \lambda) \end{cases} ds. \quad (5.10)$$

Due to (1.2),

$$x_j - x_{j-1} \leq brN^{-1}, \quad j = 1, \dots, N. \quad (5.11)$$

If  $m \leq \varrho(1 - \nu - \lambda)$ , then we obtain from (5.10) and (5.11) that

$$|u_\varphi(x) - w_{N,j}(x)| \leq cN^{-m}, \quad x_{j-1} \leq x \leq x_j, \quad j = 1, \dots, N, \quad (5.12)$$

where  $c$  is a positive constant not depending on  $N$ .

In the case  $m > \varrho(1 - \nu - \lambda)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{0 \leq x \leq x_1} \int_x^{x_1} (s-x)^{m-1} s^{\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)-m} ds &\leq \max_{0 \leq x \leq x_1} \int_x^{x_1} (s-x)^{\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)-1} ds \\ &\leq c_1 \begin{cases} N^{-\varrho r(1-\nu-\lambda)} & \text{for } 1 \leq r < \frac{m}{\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)}, \\ N^{-m} & \text{for } r \geq \frac{m}{\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)}, r \geq 1, \end{cases} \end{aligned} \tag{5.13}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{j=2, \dots, N} \max_{x_{j-1} \leq x \leq x_j} \int_x^{x_j} (s-x)^{m-1} s^{\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)-m} ds \\ \leq \max_{j=2, \dots, N} \max_{x_{j-1} \leq x \leq x_j} x^{\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)-m} \int_x^{x_j} (s-x)^{m-1} ds \\ \leq c_2 \begin{cases} N^{-\varrho r(1-\nu-\lambda)} & \text{for } 1 \leq r < \frac{m}{\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)}, \\ N^{-m} & \text{for } r \geq \frac{m}{\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)}, r \geq 1, \end{cases} \end{aligned} \tag{5.14}$$

where  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are some positive constants not depending on  $N$ . It follows from (5.9), (5.10) and (5.12)–(5.14) that

$$\|u_\varphi - P_N u_\varphi\|_\infty \leq c \begin{cases} N^{-r\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)} & \text{for } 1 \leq r < \frac{m}{\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)}, \\ N^{-m} & \text{for } r \geq \frac{m}{\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)}, r \geq 1, \end{cases}$$

with a positive constant  $c$  which is independent of  $N$ . This together with (5.5) and (5.6) yields (5.7).  $\square$

*Remark 4.* It follows from Theorem 2 that the accuracy  $\|u_N - u\|_\infty \leq cN^{-m}$  can be achieved on a mildly graded or uniform grid. As an example, if we assume that  $\nu = 2/5$ ,  $\lambda = 1/5$ ,  $m = 3$  (the case of piecewise quadratic polynomials),  $\varrho \geq 15/2$ , the maximal convergence order  $\|u_N - u\|_\infty \leq cN^{-3}$  is available for  $r \geq 1$ . In particular, the uniform grid with nodes (1.2),  $r = 1$ , may be used.

*Remark 5.* In addition to Theorem 2, assuming some additional smoothness of  $f$  and  $g$  (see (1.3)) and choosing more carefully the collocation parameters (4.3), the superconvergence of  $v_N$  at the collocation points (4.2) can be established, cf. [1, 3, 4, 5, 13, 17]. More precisely, let  $K \in W^{m+1, \nu, \lambda}(D_b)$ ,  $f \in C^{m+1, \nu+\lambda}(0, b]$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $0 < \nu < 1$ ,  $0 \leq \lambda < 1 - \nu$ , and let the interpolation nodes (4.2) be generated by the grid points (1.2) and by the node points  $\eta_1, \dots, \eta_m$  of a quadrature approximation

$$\int_0^1 z(s) ds \approx \sum_{l=1}^m w_l z(\eta_l), \quad 0 \leq \eta_1 < \dots < \eta_m \leq 1, \tag{5.15}$$

which, with appropriate weights  $\{w_l\}$ , is exact for all polynomials of degree  $m$ .

Then it turns out that for sufficiently large  $N$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{\substack{l=1,\dots,m; \\ j=1,\dots,N}} |u_N(\varphi(x_{jl})) - u(\varphi(x_{jl}))| = \max_{\substack{l=1,\dots,m; \\ j=1,\dots,N}} |v_N(x_{jl}) - u_\varphi(x_{jl})| \\ & \leq c \begin{cases} N^{-2\varrho r(1-\nu-\lambda)} & \text{for } 1 \leq r < \frac{m+1-\nu}{2\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)}, \\ N^{-m-(1-\nu)} & \text{for } r \geq \frac{m+1-\nu}{2\varrho(1-\nu-\lambda)}, \quad r \geq 1. \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (5.16)$$

We will investigate this question in a forthcoming paper where a more general class of integral equations with diagonal and boundary singularities will be discussed.

## 6 Numerical Example

Let us consider the following equation:

$$u(x) = \int_0^x (x-y)^{-\nu} y^{-\lambda} u(y) dy + f(x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1, \quad (6.1)$$

where  $0 < \nu < 1$ ,  $0 \leq \lambda < 1$ ,  $\nu + \lambda < 1$ . The forcing function  $f$  is selected so that  $u(x) = x^{1-\nu-\lambda}$  is the exact solution to (6.1). Actually, this is a problem of the form (1.1), (1.3) where  $b = 1$ ,  $g(x, y) \equiv 1$ ,  $K(x, y) = (x-y)^{-\nu} y^{-\lambda}$ ,

$$f(x) = x^{1-\nu-\lambda} - x^{2(1-\nu-\lambda)} \frac{\Gamma(1-\nu) \Gamma(2(1-\lambda) - \nu)}{\Gamma(3 - 2(\nu + \lambda))}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1,$$

$$\Gamma(t) = \int_0^\infty e^{-s} s^{t-1} ds, \quad t > 0.$$

It is easy to check that in this case  $K \in W^{m,\nu,\lambda}(D_1)$  and  $f \in C^{m,\nu+\lambda}(0, 1]$  for arbitrary  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Equation (6.1) was solved numerically by method (4.4)–(4.6) for  $\nu = 2/5$ ,  $\lambda = 1/5$ ,  $m = 3$ ,  $\eta_1 = (5 - \sqrt{15})/10$ ,  $\eta_2 = 1/2$ ,  $\eta_3 = (5 + \sqrt{15})/10$ . Here  $\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3$  are the node points of the Gauss-Legendre quadrature rule (5.15) by  $m = 3$ . This formula is exact for all polynomials of degree not exceeding  $2m - 1 = 5$ .

In Tables 1 and 2 some results for different values of the parameters  $N$ ,  $\varrho$  and  $r$  are presented. The quantities  $\varepsilon_N^{(\varrho,r)}$  in Table 1 are approximate values of the norm  $\|u_N - u\|_\infty$ , calculated as follows:

$$\varepsilon_N^{(\varrho,r)} = \max_{\substack{l=0,\dots,10 \\ j=1,\dots,N}} |u_N((\tau_{jl}^{(r)})^\varrho) - u((\tau_{jl}^{(r)})^\varrho)|,$$

where  $\tau_{jl}^{(r)} = x_{j-1} + l(x_j - x_{j-1})/10$ ,  $l = 0, \dots, 10$ ;  $j = 1, \dots, N$ , with the grid points  $x_j$ , defined by formula (1.2) for  $b = 1$ .

Table 2 shows the dependence of

$$\gamma_N^{(\varrho,r)} = \max_{\substack{l=1,\dots,m; \\ j=1,\dots,N}} |u_N(\varphi(x_{jl})) - u(\varphi(x_{jl}))| = \max_{\substack{l=1,\dots,m; \\ j=1,\dots,N}} |v_N(x_{jl}) - u_\varphi(x_{jl})|$$



on the parameters  $N$ ,  $\varrho$  and  $r$  (see (5.16)). The ratios  $\delta_N^{(\varrho,r)} = \varepsilon_{N/2}^{(\varrho,r)} / \varepsilon_N^{(\varrho,r)}$ ,  $\tilde{\delta}_N^{(\varrho,r)} = \gamma_{N/2}^{(\varrho,r)} / \gamma_N^{(\varrho,r)}$ , characterizing the observed convergence rate, are also presented. From Theorem 2 it follows that for sufficiently large  $N$ ,

$$\varepsilon_N^{(\varrho,r)} \approx \|u_N - u\|_\infty \leq c \begin{cases} N^{-2\varrho r/5} & \text{if } 1 \leq \varrho r < 15/2, \\ N^{-3} & \text{if } \varrho r \geq 15/2. \end{cases} \quad (6.2)$$

**Table 1.** ( $m = 3, \nu = \frac{2}{5}, \lambda = \frac{1}{5}, \eta_1 = \frac{5-\sqrt{15}}{10}, \eta_2 = \frac{1}{2}, \eta_3 = \frac{5+\sqrt{15}}{10}$ )

$N$	$\varepsilon_N^{(1,1)}$	$\varepsilon_N^{(3,1)}$	$\varepsilon_N^{(7/2, 3/2)}$	$\varepsilon_N^{(15/2, 1)}$	$\varepsilon_N^{(15/4, 2)}$
	$\delta_N^{(1,1)}$	$\delta_N^{(3,1)}$	$\delta_N^{(7/2, 3/2)}$	$\delta_N^{(15/2, 1)}$	$\delta_N^{(15/4, 2)}$
32	7.7 E - 2 1.35	3.1 E - 4 2.30	1.7 E - 5 4.29	1.8 E - 6 8.64	9.2 E - 7 8.75
64	5.8 E - 2 1.34	1.3 E - 4 2.30	3.9 E - 6 4.29	2.1 E - 7 8.47	1.1 E - 7 8.05
128	4.3 E - 2 1.33	5.8 E - 5 2.30	9.1 E - 7 4.29	2.6 E - 8 8.32	1.4 E - 8 8.00
256	3.2 E - 2 1.33	2.5 E - 5 2.30	2.1 E - 7 4.29	3.1 E - 9 8.22	1.8 E - 9 8.00
512	2.4 E - 2 1.33	1.1 E - 5 2.30	4.9 E - 8 4.29	3.9 E - 10 8.14	2.2 E - 10 8.00
	1.33	2.30	4.29	8.00	8.00

Due to (6.2), the ratio  $\delta_N^{(\varrho,r)}$  ought to be approximately

$$(N/2)^{-2\varrho r/5} / N^{-2\varrho r/5} = 2^{2\varrho r/5} \text{ for } 1 \leq \varrho r < \frac{15}{2}$$

and 8 for  $\varrho r \geq 15/2$ . In particular,  $\delta_N^{(1,1)}$ ,  $\delta_N^{(3,1)}$ ,  $\delta_N^{(7/2, 3/2)}$ ,  $\delta_N^{(15/2, 1)}$  and  $\delta_N^{(15/4, 2)}$  ought to be approximately 1.33, 2.30, 4.29, 8.00 and 8.00, respectively. These values of  $\delta_N^{(\varrho,r)}$  are given in the last row of Table 1.

**Table 2.** ( $m = 3, \nu = \frac{2}{5}, \lambda = \frac{1}{5}, \eta_1 = \frac{5-\sqrt{15}}{10}, \eta_2 = \frac{1}{2}, \eta_3 = \frac{5+\sqrt{15}}{10}$ )

$N$	$\gamma_N^{(1,1)}$	$\gamma_N^{(3,1)}$	$\gamma_N^{(4,1)}$	$\gamma_N^{(3, 3/2)}$	$\gamma_N^{(4,2)}$
	$\tilde{\delta}_N^{(1,1)}$	$\tilde{\delta}_N^{(3,1)}$	$\tilde{\delta}_N^{(4,1)}$	$\tilde{\delta}_N^{(3, 3/2)}$	$\tilde{\delta}_N^{(4,2)}$
32	1.4 E - 2 2.30	3.5 E - 7 5.34	3.8 E - 8 9.23	1.7 E - 8 11.74	8.0 E - 8 11.91
64	6.3 E - 3 2.30	6.5 E - 8 5.28	4.2 E - 9 9.20	1.4 E - 9 11.95	6.8 E - 9 11.81
128	2.7 E - 3 2.30	1.2 E - 8 5.28	4.5 E - 10 9.19	1.2 E - 10 12.04	5.7 E - 10 11.92
256	1.2 E - 3 2.30	2.4 E - 9 5.28	4.9 E - 11 9.19	9.6 E - 12 12.08	4.7 E - 11 12.01
512	5.2 E - 4 2.30	4.5 E - 10 5.28	5.4 E - 12 9.19	7.9 E - 13 12.10	3.9 E - 12 12.06
	1.74	5.28	9.19	12.13	12.13

In a similar way we obtain from (5.16) that  $\tilde{\delta}_N^{(1,1)}$ ,  $\tilde{\delta}_N^{(3,1)}$ ,  $\tilde{\delta}_N^{(4,1)}$ ,  $\tilde{\delta}_N^{(3, \frac{3}{2})}$  and  $\tilde{\delta}_N^{(4,2)}$  ought to be approximately 1.74, 5.28, 9.19, 12.13 and 12.13, respectively. These values of  $\tilde{\delta}_N^{(e,r)}$  are given in the last row of Table 2.

As we can see from Tables 1 and 2, the numerical results are in good agreement with the theoretical estimates. In Table 2 only the decrease of  $\gamma_N^{(1,1)}$  is faster than it is indicated by theoretical estimates: the predicted value for  $\tilde{\delta}_N^{(1,1)}$  is equal to 1.74, but the current experiment gave for  $\tilde{\delta}_N^{(1,1)}$  a stable value 2.30. This phenomenon notifies that the local order of convergence of proposed algorithms needs further theoretical and numerical study.

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