A numerical solution by alternative Legendre polynomials on a model for novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

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Abstract
Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. This paper provides a numerical solution for the mathematical model of the novel coronavirus by the application of alternative Legendre polynomials to find the transmissibility of COVID-19. The mathematical model of the present problem is a system of differential equations. The goal is to convert this system to an algebraic system by use of the useful property of alternative Legendre polynomials and collocation method that can be solved easily. We compare the results of this method with those of the Runge–Kutta method to show the efficiency of the proposed method.

Keywords: Coronavirus; COVID-19; Operational matrix of derivative; Alternative Legendre polynomials

1 Introduction
An outbreak of the 2019 novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Wuhan, China has spread quickly nationwide. The COVID-19 epidemic has spread very quickly from China to all the world [1, 2]. Countries continue to battle the novel coronavirus as it has infected more than 28 million around the world [3].

In [4] the COVID-19 mathematical model has been derived as follows, where $S_p(t)$ is susceptible people, $E_p(t)$ is exposed people, $I_p(t)$ is symptomatic infected people, $A_p(t)$ is asymptomatic infected people, $R_p(t)$ is recovered and dead people, and $W(t)$ is COVID-19 in reservoir in time $t$. The parameters needed are defined in Table 1 and $\Lambda_p = n_p \times N_p$, where $N_p$ refers to the total number of people:

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{dS_p}{dt} &= \Lambda_p - m_p S_p - \beta_p S_p (I_p + k A_p) - \beta_w S_p W, \\
\frac{dE_p}{dt} &= \beta_p S_p (I_p + k A_p) + \beta_w S_p W - (1 - \delta_p) \omega_p E_p - \delta_p \omega'_p E_p - m_p E_p, \\
\frac{dI_p}{dt} &= (1 - \delta_p) \omega_p E_p - (\gamma_p + m_p) I_p, \\
\frac{dA_p}{dt} &= \delta_p \omega'_p E_p - (\gamma'_p + m_p) A_p, \\
\frac{dR_p}{dt} &= \gamma_p I_p + \gamma'_p A_p - m_p R_p, \\
\frac{dW}{dt} &= \mu_p I_p + \mu'_p A_p - \epsilon W.
\end{align*}
\]
Table 1 Definition of the parameters in the COVID-19 model

| Variables and parameters | Descriptions |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| \( n_p \)                | The birth rate of people |
| \( m_p \)                | The death rate of people |
| \( \frac{1}{\omega_p} \) | The incubation period of people |
| \( \frac{1}{\tau_p} \)   | The latent period of people |
| \( \frac{1}{\gamma_p} \) | The infectious period of symptomatic infection in people |
| \( \frac{1}{\gamma_p'} \) | The infectious period of asymptomatic infection in people |
| \( \mu_p \)              | The shedding coefficients from \( I_p \) to \( W \) |
| \( \mu_p' \)             | The shedding coefficients from \( A_p \) to \( W \) |
| \( \delta_p \)           | The proportion of asymptomatic infection rate of people |
| \( \beta_p \)            | The transmission rate from \( I_p \) to \( S_p \) |
| \( \beta_p' \)           | The transmission rate from \( W \) to \( S_p \) |
| \( k \)                  | The multiple of the transmissibility of \( A_p \) to that of \( I_p \) |
| \( \epsilon \)           | The lifetime of the virus in \( W \) |
| \( c \)                  | The relative shedding rate of \( A_p \) compared to \( I_p \) |

This paper aims to find the transmissibility of the COVID-19 by finding the unknowns \( S_p \), \( E_p \), \( I_p \), \( A_p \), \( R_p \), and \( W \). In medical sciences, the computation of these variables is vital to measure the progression of disease and to get a better cure.

In this paper, for finding these variables, we use alternative Legendre polynomials and their operational matrix of derivative. The proposed method results are compared to those of Runge–Kutta method, which shows the reliability of the proposed method.

There exist some related papers on this topic that have solved the coronavirus model or some differential equation system that appears in the disease model, so we refer the readers to them to see some similar methods on this topic [5–8].

The remainder of the article is organized as follows. In Sect. 2, we review the properties of alternative Legendre polynomials and approximation of a function with them. Then we present the operational matrix of derivatives of these polynomials. In Sect. 3, we implement the alternative Legendre polynomials method on the coronavirus model. Section 4 shows the applicability of the proposed method through a test problem, also the results are compared with Runge–Kutta method results that confirm the reliability of the proposed method. Then Sect. 5 concludes the paper.

2 Some basic concepts of alternative Legendre polynomials (ALPs)

2.1 Properties of ALPs

The set \( P_n = \{P_{nk} : k = 0, 1, \ldots, n\} \) of alternative Legendre polynomials of degree \( n \) is defined by an explicit formula on the interval \([0, 1]\) (see [9]) as follows:

\[
P_{nk}(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{n-k} (-1)^j \binom{n-k}{j} \binom{n+k+j+1}{n-k} t^{k+j}, \quad k = 0, 1, \ldots, n. \tag{2}
\]

They are orthogonal on the interval \([0, 1]\) with the weight function \( w(t) = 1 \). The ALPs satisfy the orthogonality relationships

\[
\int_0^1 P_{nk}(t) P_{nl}(t) \, dt = \begin{cases} 
\frac{1}{k^{r+1}}, & k = l, \\
0, & k \neq l,
\end{cases} \quad k, l = 0, 1, \ldots, n. \tag{3}
\]
We can reproduce Eq. (2) with Rodrigues's type as follows:

\[ P_{nk}(t) = \frac{1}{(n-k)!} \frac{1}{t^{k+1}} \frac{d^{n-k}}{dt^{n-k}} (t^{n+k+1}(1-t)^{n-k}) , \]

\[ k = 0,1,\ldots,n. \]  

So, we have

\[ \int_0^1 P_{nk}(t) dt = \int_0^1 t^n dt = \frac{1}{n+1}, \quad k = 0,1,\ldots,n. \]  

Here, we note that each element of the set \( P_n = \{ P_{nk} \}_{k=0}^n \) is the polynomial of other \( n \). For example, in the following we introduce the alternative Legendre polynomials \( P_3 = \{ P_{nk} \}_{k=0}^3 \) (\( n = 3 \)).

\[ P_{30}(t) = 4 - 30t + 60t^2 - 35t^3, \quad P_{31}(t) = 10t - 30t^2 + 21t^3, \]

\[ P_{32}(t) = 6t^2 - 7t^3, \quad P_{33}(t) = t^3. \]

In Fig. 1, we display the 4 set of ALPs with \( n = 3 \) over the interval \([0, 1]\).

**2.2 Function approximation**

Consider \( P_n = \{ P_{nk} \}_{k=0}^n \subset H = L^2[0, 1] \) to be a set of ALPs and suppose that \( Y = \text{Span}\{ P_{nk}(t) : k = 0,1,\ldots,n \} \). So, \( Y \) is a finite dimensional subspace of \( H \). Suppose, \( f \) to be an arbitrary function in \( H \). Therefore, based on the Weierstrass theorem, every continuous function \( f(t) \) on the interval \([a, b]\) can be uniformly approximated by a polynomial function [9]. So, \( f \) has a unique best approximation in \( Y \) that we call \( f^*(t) \). We have

\[ \| f(t) - f^*(t) \|_2 \leq \| f(t) - y(t) \|_2 : \forall y(t) \in Y. \]
Then this implies that

\[ \langle y, f - f^* \rangle = 0 : \quad \forall y(t) \in Y, \quad (7) \]

where \( \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle \) denotes an inner product. Therefore, any arbitrary function \( f \in H = L^2[0, 1] \) may be approximated in terms of ALPs. So, there exists a set of unique coefficients \( \{c_k : k = 0, 1, \ldots, n\} \) such that

\[ f(t) \approx f^*(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} c_k P_{nk}(t), \quad (8) \]

coefficient \( c_k \) can be obtained in the following form:

\[ c_k = \frac{\langle f, P_{nk} \rangle}{\langle P_{nk}, P_{nk} \rangle} = (2k + 1) \langle f, P_{nk} \rangle, \quad k = 0, 1, \ldots, n, \quad (9) \]

and

\[ \langle f, f \rangle = \int_{0}^{1} f^2(t) \, dt. \quad (10) \]

Also, Eq. (8) can be written in a matrix form as follows:

\[ f(t) \approx \sum_{k=0}^{n} c_k P_{nk}(t) = C^T \Phi(t), \quad (11) \]

where

\[ C = [c_0, c_1, \ldots, c_n] \quad (12) \]

and

\[ \Phi(t) = [P_{n0}(t), P_{n1}(t), \ldots, P_{nn}(t)]^T. \quad (13) \]

Let \( d_{ij}^{(n)} = (-1)^j \binom{n-k}{j} \binom{n+k+j-1}{n-k} \), then Eq. (2) can be written as

\[ P_{nk}(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{n-k} d_{ij}^{(n)} t^j, \quad k = 0, 1, \ldots, n. \quad (14) \]
By using Eq. (14), for $k = 0, 1, \ldots, n$ now, we can write

$$
\Phi(t) = \begin{bmatrix}
P_{n0}(t) \\
P_{n1}(t) \\
\vdots \\
P_{nn}(t)
\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
\sum_{j=0}^{n} a_{0j}^{(n)} t^j \\
\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} a_{1j+1}^{(n)} t^j \\
\vdots \\
\sum_{j=0}^{n-n} a_{nj}^{(n)} t^j
\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
a_{00}^{(n)} + a_{01}^{(n)} t + a_{02}^{(n)} t^2 + \cdots + a_{0n}^{(n)} t^n \\
a_{01}^{(n)} t + a_{02}^{(n)} t^2 + \cdots + a_{0(n-1)}^{(n)} t^{n-1} \\
\vdots \\
0
\end{bmatrix}
$$

(15)

Therefore Eq. (13) can be written in the following form:

$$
\Phi(t) = \Phi X_t,
$$

(16)

where

$$
X_t = \begin{bmatrix}
1 & t & t^2 & \cdots & t^n
\end{bmatrix}^T,
$$

(17)

and $\Phi$ is the upper triangular matrix defined by [10]

$$
\Phi = [q_{kj}], \quad k, j = 0, 1, \ldots, n,
$$

(18)

$$
q_{kj} = \begin{cases}
0, & 0 \leq j < k, \\
(-1)^{j-k} \binom{n+j-1}{n-k}, & k \leq j \leq n.
\end{cases}
$$

Definition The tensor product of two vectors $\hat{f}_{\hat{m}} = [f_i]$ and $\hat{g}_{\hat{m}} = [g_i]$ is defined as

$$
f \otimes g = (f_i \times g_i)_{\hat{m}}.
$$

(19)

Similarly, for two matrices $A = [a_{ij}]$ and $B = [b_{ij}]$ of $\hat{m} \times \hat{m}$,

$$
A \otimes B = (a_{ij} \times b_{ij})_{\hat{m} \times \hat{m}}.
$$

(20)

The lemma below will be needed in Sect. 3.

Lemma Let the functions $f(t), g(t) \in L^2[0, 1]$ be expanded into ALPs, that is, $f(t) = f^T \Phi(t)$ and $g(t) = g^T \Phi(t)$. Then

$$
f(t)g(t) = (f^T \otimes g^T) \Phi(t).
$$

(21)

Proof

$$
f(t)g(t) = f^T \Phi(t) \Phi^T(t) g = f_1 g_1 P_{n0}(t) + f_2 g_2 P_{n1}(t) + \cdots + f_n g_n P_{nn}(t) = (f^T \otimes g^T) \Phi(t).
$$
2.3 Operational matrix of derivative

In this section, we derive the operational matrix of derivative of the ALPs that plays an important role in simplifying a system of differential equations and implementation of the proposed method.

To compute this operational matrix, we need to introduce the following properties of ALPs that can easily be deduced from the given definitions. Let

\[ P_{ni}(t) = \sum_{r=0}^{n} p_i^{(r)} t^r, \]

\[ P_{nj}(t) = \sum_{r=0}^{n} p_j^{(r)} t^r, \]

\[ P_{nk}(t) = \sum_{r=0}^{n} p_k^{(r)} t^r \]

be \(i\)th, \(j\)th, and \(k\)th of ALPs, respectively. Therefore, we have

- \( \int_0^1 t^r P_{nk}(t) \, dt = \sum_{l=0}^{\min(n-k, l+r+1)} (-1)^l \binom{n-k}{l} \binom{n+k+l+1}{n-k} t^l, \quad k = 0, 1, \ldots, n. \) (22)

- \( P_{nk}(t) P_{nj}(t) = \sum_{r=0}^{2n} q_{l}^{k,j} t^r, \quad q_{l}^{k,j} = \begin{cases} \sum_{r=0}^{\min(n-l-r, n)} p_{l}^{(r)} p_{r-l}^{(k)} & r \leq n, \\ \sum_{r=\max(n-l-r, 0)}^{n} p_{l}^{(r)} p_{r-l}^{(k)} & r > n, \end{cases} \) (23)

- \( \int_0^1 P_{m}(t) P_{nj}(t) P_{nk}(t) \, dt = \sum_{r=0}^{2n} q_{l}^{k,j} \sum_{l=0}^{\min(n-i, l+r+1)} (-1)^l \binom{n-i}{l} \binom{n+i+l+1}{n-i} t^l, \quad \) (24)

The derivative of the vector \( \Phi(t) \) can be expressed by

\[ \frac{d\Phi(t)}{dt} = D^{(1)} \Phi(t). \] (25)

Here, \( D^{(1)} \) is the \((n+1) \times (n+1)\) operational matrix of derivative.

So, by applying the differential operator with respect to \( t \), we can write \( D_t = \frac{d}{dt} \) (see [11]). By applying the polynomial \( P_{nk}(t) \), we obtain

\[
D_t P_{nk}(t) = D_t \sum_{j=0}^{\min(n-k, l+r+1)} (-1)^j \binom{n-k}{j} \binom{n+k+j+1}{n-k} t^{l+j} \\
= \sum_{j=0}^{\min(n-k, l+r+1)} (-1)^j \binom{n-k}{j} \binom{n+k+j+1}{n-k} D_t t^{l+j} \\
= \sum_{j=0}^{\min(n-k, l+r+1)} (-1)^j (k+j) \binom{n-k}{j} \binom{n+k+j+1}{n-k} t^{l+j-1},
\]

\( k = 0, 1, \ldots, n. \) (26)

Here, by using Eq. (11), one can approximate \( t^{k+j-1} \) in terms of ALPs as follows:

\[
t^{k+j-1} \simeq \sum_{r=0}^{n} b_{r}^{(k,j)} P_{nr}(t).
\] (27)
The approximation coefficients $b_{r}^{(k,j)}$ are obtained using Eq. (9) as follows:

$$b_{r}^{(k,j)} = (2r + 1) \int_{0}^{1} y(t)p_{n} dt$$

$$= (2r + 1) \int_{0}^{1} e^{tj-1} \sum_{l=0}^{n-r} (-1)^l \binom{n-r}{l} \binom{n+r+l+1}{n-r} e^{rt} dt$$

$$= (2r + 1) \sum_{l=0}^{n-r} (-1)^l \binom{n-r}{l} \binom{n+r+l+1}{n-r} \frac{1}{k+j+r+l}, \quad r = 0, 1, \ldots, n.$$  \hspace{1cm} (28)

Substituting (27) into (26), we have

$$D_{r}p_{nk}(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{n-k} (-1)^j \binom{n-k}{j} \binom{n+k+j+1}{n-k} \frac{\Gamma(k+j+1)}{\Gamma(k+j+\alpha+1)} \sum_{r=0}^{n} b_{r}^{(k,j)} p_{nr}(t),$$

$$k = 0, 1, \ldots, n.$$ \hspace{1cm} (29)

Then, using Eqs. (26) and (27), we have

$$D_{r}p_{nk}(t)$$

$$= \sum_{r=0}^{n} (2r + 1) \times \left[ \sum_{j=0}^{n-k} (-1)^j (k+j) \binom{n-k}{j} \binom{n+k+j+1}{n-k} \sum_{l=0}^{n-r} (-1)^l \binom{n-r}{l} \binom{n+r+l+1}{n-r} \frac{1}{k+j+r+l} \right] p_{nr}(t)$$

$$= \sum_{r=0}^{n} \theta^{(1)}_{kr} p_{nr}(t)$$

hence

$$\theta^{(1)}_{kr} = (2r + 1) \left[ \sum_{j=0}^{n-k} (-1)^j (k+j) \binom{n-k}{j} \binom{n+k+j+1}{n-k} \sum_{l=0}^{n-r} (-1)^l \binom{n-r}{l} \binom{n+r+l+1}{n-r} \frac{1}{k+j+r+l} \right].$$  \hspace{1cm} (30)

Therefore, for the vector $\Phi(t)$ defined by (13), we get

$$\frac{d\Phi(t)}{dt} = D_{r}\Phi(t) = D^{(1)}\Phi(t),$$  \hspace{1cm} (32)

where $D^{(1)}$ is the $(n + 1) \times (n + 1)$ operational matrix of derivative based on the ALPs as follows:

$$D^{(1)} = \left[ \theta^{(1)}_{kr} \right], \quad k, r = 0, 1, \ldots, n.$$  \hspace{1cm} (33)
3 Implementation of an alternative Legendre polynomials method on the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) problem

Firstly, note that the variable of system (1) becomes normalized as follows [4]:

\[
\begin{align*}
sp &= \frac{S_p}{N_p}, \quad ep = \frac{E_p}{N_p}, \quad ip = \frac{I_p}{N_p}, \quad ap = \frac{A_p}{N_p}, \quad rp = \frac{R_p}{N_p}, \quad w = \frac{\varepsilon W}{\mu_p N_p},
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\mu'_p = c\mu_p, \quad b_p = \beta_p N_p, \quad b_W = \mu_p \beta_p N_p \varepsilon.
\]

So, the normalized model is changed as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{ds_p}{dt} &= n_p - m_p s_p - b_p s_p (ip + ka_p) - b_W s_p w,
\frac{de_p}{dt} &= b_p s_p (ip + ka_p) + b_W s_p w - (1 - \delta_p) o_p e_p - \delta_p o'_p e_p - m_p e_p,
\frac{di_p}{dt} &= (1 - \delta_p) o_p e_p - (\gamma_p + m_p) i_p,
\frac{da_p}{dt} &= \delta_p o'_p e_p - (\gamma'_p + m_p) a_p,
\frac{dr_p}{dt} &= \gamma_p i_p + \gamma'_p a_p - m_p r_p,
\frac{dw}{dt} &= \varepsilon (ip + c a_p - w)
\end{align*}
\]

with the initial conditions

\[
sp(0) = s_0, \quad ep(0) = e_0, \quad ip(0) = i_0, \quad ap(0) = a_0, \quad rp(0) = r_0, \quad w(0) = w_0.
\]

The main objective of this paper is to implement ALPs approach on the system of differential Eqs. (34) with the above initial conditions to find the numerical solution of this system. From Eq. (11), we can approximate our unknown functions as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
sp &= C_1^T \Phi(t), \quad ep = C_2^T \Phi(t), \quad ip = C_3^T \Phi(t),
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
ap &= C_4^T \Phi(t), \quad rp = C_5^T \Phi(t), \quad w = C_6^T \Phi(t),
\end{align*}
\]

where coefficient vectors \(C_i : i = 1, \ldots, 6\) that were defined in Eq. (29) are as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
C_1 &= [c_0, \ldots, c_n]^T, \quad C_2 = [c_{n+1}, \ldots, c_{2n+1}]^T, \quad C_3 = [c_{2n+2}, \ldots, c_{3n+2}]^T, \\
C_4 &= [c_{3n+3}, \ldots, c_{4n+3}]^T, \quad C_5 = [c_{4n+4}, \ldots, c_{5n+4}]^T, \quad C_6 = [c_{5n+5}, \ldots, c_{6n+5}]^T.
\end{align*}
\]

By using Eqs. (34) and (32), we have

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{ds_p}{dt} &= C_1^T \Phi'(t) = C_1^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t), \\
\frac{de_p}{dt} &= C_2^T \Phi'(t) = C_2^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t), \\
\frac{di_p}{dt} &= C_3^T \Phi'(t) = C_3^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t), \\
\frac{da_p}{dt} &= C_4^T \Phi'(t) = C_4^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t), \\
\frac{dr_p}{dt} &= C_5^T \Phi'(t) = C_5^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t), \\
\frac{dw}{dt} &= C_6^T \Phi'(t) = C_6^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t).
\end{align*}
\]
By substituting Eqs. (37) and (35) into the system of differential Eqs. (1), we have

\[
\begin{align*}
C_1^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t) &= n_p - m_p C_1^T \Phi(t) - b_p C_1^T \otimes C_2^T \Phi(t) \\
&- k b_p C_1^T \otimes C_4^T \Phi(t) - b_W C_1^T \otimes C_6^T \Phi(t), \\
C_2^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t) &= b_p C_1^T \otimes C_2^T \Phi(t) + k b_p C_1^T \otimes C_4^T \Phi(t) + b_W C_1^T \otimes C_6^T \Phi(t) \\
&- (1 - \delta_p) \omega_p C_2^T \Phi(t) - \delta_p \omega_p' C_2^T \Phi(t) - m_p C_2^T \Phi(t), \\
C_3^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t) &= (1 - \delta_p) \omega_p C_2^T \Phi(t) - (\gamma_p + m_p) C_3^T \Phi(t), \\
C_4^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t) &= \delta_p \omega_p' C_2^T \Phi(t) - (\gamma_p' + m_p) C_4^T \Phi(t), \\
C_5^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t) &= \gamma_p C_3^T \Phi(t) + \gamma_p' C_4^T \Phi(t) - m_p C_5^T \Phi(t), \\
C_6^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t) &= \varepsilon (C_5^T \Phi(t) + c C_4^T \Phi(t) - C_6^T \Phi(t)).
\end{align*}
\]

Also, by considering the initial conditions for main problem (1) and Eq. (35), we have

\[
\begin{align*}
C_1^T \Phi(0) &= s_0, & C_2^T \Phi(0) &= e_0, & C_3^T \Phi(0) &= i_0, \\
C_4^T \Phi(0) &= a_0, & C_5^T \Phi(0) &= r_0, & C_6^T \Phi(0) &= w_0.
\end{align*}
\]

Equation (39) gives six linear equations.

Since the total unknowns for vectors $C_i : i = 1, \ldots, 6$ are $6n + 5$, we collocate Eq. (38) in the set of $(6n - 1)$ nodal points $t_l$ of the Gauss–Chelyshkov [10] as follows:

\[
Q_n = \{ t_l | P_{n+1,0}(t_l) = 0, l = 0, 1, \ldots, n \}.
\]

Now, by replacing the nodes $t_l$ in Eq. (38),

\[
\begin{align*}
C_1^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t_l) &= n_p - m_p C_1^T \Phi(t_l) - b_p C_1^T \otimes C_2^T \Phi(t_l) \\
&- k b_p C_1^T \otimes C_4^T \Phi(t_l) - b_W C_1^T \otimes C_6^T \Phi(t_l), \\
C_2^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t_l) &= b_p C_1^T \otimes C_2^T \Phi(t_l) + k b_p C_1^T \otimes C_4^T \Phi(t_l) + b_W C_1^T \otimes C_6^T \Phi(t_l) \\
&- (1 - \delta_p) \omega_p C_2^T \Phi(t_l) - \delta_p \omega_p' C_2^T \Phi(t_l) - m_p C_2^T \Phi(t_l), \\
C_3^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t_l) &= (1 - \delta_p) \omega_p C_2^T \Phi(t_l) - (\gamma_p + m_p) C_3^T \Phi(t_l), \\
C_4^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t_l) &= \delta_p \omega_p' C_2^T \Phi(t_l) - (\gamma_p' + m_p) C_4^T \Phi(t_l), \\
C_5^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t_l) &= \gamma_p C_3^T \Phi(t_l) + \gamma_p' C_4^T \Phi(t_l) - m_p C_5^T \Phi(t_l), \\
C_6^T D^{(1)} \Phi(t_l) &= \varepsilon (C_5^T \Phi(t_l) + c C_4^T \Phi(t_l) - C_6^T \Phi(t_l))
\end{align*}
\]

for $i = 0, \ldots, 6n - 1$, we can solve this system of $6n$ equations that resulted from Eqs. (39) and (41) by using Newton’s iteration scheme [12–16] for calculating the unknown vectors $C_i : i = 1, \ldots, 6$.

For existence and stability of the proposed method with ALPs, we can refer to paper [9].

In our implementation, the calculations are done in Mathematica 11 software, on a personal computer with Core-i5 processor, 2.67 GHZ frequency, and 4 GB memory.

4 Numerical example

In this section a test problem of the coronavirus model is solved by our proposed method.
The values of the initial conditions and parameters are given as [4]:

\[ N_p = 1,000,000,000, \quad \delta_p = k = \beta_p = \beta_w = \mu_p = \gamma'_p = c = 0.5, \quad n_p = m_p = 0.0018, \]
\[ \varepsilon = 0.1, \quad w_p = w'_p = 0.1923, \quad \gamma_p = 0.1724. \]

Also, we get the initial values of unknown parameters as follows:

\[ s_p(0) = 2, \quad e_p(0) = 4, \quad i_p(0) = 3, \quad a_p(0) = 4, \quad r_p(0) = 2, \quad w(0) = 3.5. \]

We solve this problem by \( n = 16 \) in ALPs. The results of proposed method are compared with the results of Runge–Kutta method. Figure 2 and Tables 2–7 show the comparison between them.

5 Conclusion
The World Health Organization declared the coronavirus (COVID-19) a pandemic on March 11, 2020. This virus spread quickly in more than 200 countries, and up to now
Table 2 Numerical comparison for $s_p(t)$ with $n = 16$ on the interval $[0, 1]$

| $t$   | RK4          | Present method |
|-------|--------------|----------------|
| 0.0   | 2.0000000000| 2.0000000000   |
| 0.2   | 1.59905E−13 | 0.03002862     |
| 0.4   | 1.59871E−13 | −0.02923894    |
| 0.6   | 1.59898E−13 | −0.03456393    |
| 0.8   | 1.59982E−13 | −0.01139075    |
| 1     | 1.60124E−13 | 1.12482514     |

Table 3 Numerical comparison for $e_p(t)$ with $n = 16$ on the interval $[0, 1]$

| $t$   | RK4          | Present method |
|-------|--------------|----------------|
| 0.0   | 4            | 4              |
| 0.2   | 5.77189614477| 5.74277771538  |
| 0.4   | 5.55247760052| 5.58266126424  |
| 0.6   | 5.3414367556 | 5.3785723359   |
| 0.8   | 5.1383625205 | 5.1503433745   |
| 1     | 4.94308933537| 3.80689507404  |

Table 4 Numerical comparison for $i_p(t)$ with $n = 16$ on the interval $[0, 1]$

| $t$   | RK4          | Present method |
|-------|--------------|----------------|
| 0.0   | 3            | 3              |
| 0.2   | 3.00849107875| 3.00849108363  |
| 0.4   | 3.01246360734| 3.01246360563  |
| 0.6   | 3.01223326389| 3.01223326126  |
| 0.8   | 3.00809881420| 3.00809880689  |
| 1     | 3.00034288194| 3.00034287358  |

Table 5 Numerical comparison for $a_p(t)$ with $n = 16$ on the interval $[0, 1]$

| $t$   | RK4          | Present method |
|-------|--------------|----------------|
| 0.0   | 4            | 4              |
| 0.2   | 3.72569099766| 3.725275447302 |
| 0.4   | 3.47348293584| 3.473083836484 |
| 0.6   | 3.24142145708| 3.241082166196 |
| 0.8   | 3.02773254616| 3.027574796909 |
| 1     | 2.83080613397| 2.836696723317 |

Table 6 Numerical comparison for $r_p(t)$ with $n = 16$ on the interval $[0, 1]$

| $t$   | RK4          | Present method |
|-------|--------------|----------------|
| 0.0   | 2            | 2              |
| 0.2   | 2.48888268589| 2.48882899953  |
| 0.4   | 2.95149948421| 2.95140029238  |
| 0.6   | 3.38981796531| 3.38968102039  |
| 0.8   | 3.8056389580 | 3.8054621628   |
| 1     | 4.20058431510| 4.20029857270  |

Table 7 Numerical comparison for $w(t)$ with $n = 16$ on the interval $[0, 1]$

| $t$   | RK4          | Present method |
|-------|--------------|----------------|
| 0.0   | 3.5          | 3.5            |
| 0.2   | 3.52841252047| 3.52840049359  |
| 0.4   | 3.55378078473| 3.55375851466  |
| 0.6   | 3.57628769500| 3.57625646333  |
| 0.8   | 3.59610020735| 3.5960681175   |
| 1     | 3.61337096445| 3.61330663649  |
more than 28 million around the world have been infected. This paper aims to solve the mathematical model of coronavirus that can show the transmissibility of this virus that is vital to measure the progression of the disease and to get a better cure. By use of alternative Legendre polynomials and their operational matrix of derivative, we convert the system of coronavirus model to an algebraic model. We compare the results of the present method with those of the Runge–Kutta method, which confirmed the reliability of the proposed method results.

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Availability of data and materials
The final number of coronavirus cases can be found in the following site: https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/
And the material is not applicable.

Competing interests
The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Authors’ contributions
The authors have equal contributions to each part of this paper. All the authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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