Dynamical Behaviors of Nonlinear Coronavirus (COVID-19) Model with Numerical Studies

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Abstract: The development of mathematical modeling of infectious diseases is a key research area in various fields including ecology and epidemiology. One aim of these models is to understand the dynamics of behavior in infectious diseases. For the new strain of coronavirus (COVID-19), there is no vaccine to protect people and to prevent its spread so far. Instead, control strategies associated with health care, such as social distancing, quarantine, travel restrictions, can be adopted to control the pandemic of COVID-19. This article sheds light on the dynamical behaviors of nonlinear COVID-19 models based on two methods: the homotopy perturbation method (HPM) and the modified reduced differential transform method (MRDTM). We invoke a novel signal flow graph that is used to describe the COVID-19 model. Through our mathematical studies, it is revealed that social distancing between potentially infected individuals who are carrying the virus and healthy individuals can decrease or interrupt the spread of the virus. The numerical simulation results are in reasonable agreement with the study predictions. The free equilibrium and stability point for the COVID-19 model are investigated. Also, the existence of a uniformly stable solution is proved.

Keywords: Nonlinear COVID-19 model; equilibrium point; stability; existence of uniformly stable; signal flow graph; homotopy perturbation method; reduced differential transform method

1 Introduction

Recently, the number of deaths around the world has increased dramatically due to the spread of the new virus known as Coronavirus (COVID-19). The rapid escalation of cases in almost all countries has created a real challenge for the entire world especially when the World Health Organization declared that this virus has become a global pandemic since its outbreak has spread rapidly from China to the rest of the world. Most countries around the world have implemented suggested strategies based on restricting the movement or travelling to minimize the spread of the potentially deadly virus among nations. Despite the negative impact on achieving economic growth, restricted movement is considered one of the most effective ways to reduce the virus

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transmission in the global community. With the advent of the last two weeks, the number of cases in the world has grown exponentially in many affected areas and reached over 29 million throughout the world. Therefore, the spread of (COVID-19) is widely recognized as being one of the most significant outbreaks in the last four decades. At this stage, there is no vaccine against the new coronavirus COVID-19 and most individuals do not have any immunity that can defend them against infections. This is why it is very important to address the current challenge of COVID-19 to prevent infection and to take action to contain any further spread of the virus. Based on the reports of experts’ medical professionals and dedicated faculty, the virus is primarily spread through droplets. Therefore, the researchers feel the urge to contribute to promote the idea of social distancing between potentially infected individuals and healthy individuals to decrease or diminish the eruption of COVID-19 in all a populations. The challenge of COVID-19 is now guiding researchers from medicine and molecular biology to applied mathematics toward mathematical modeling that can play a significant role in predicting, assessing, and controlling potential outbreaks. In the last few years, numerous mathematical models have been developed to provide insightful details into many problems of interest including the transmission and control of infectious diseases. For example, Siettos et al. [1] briefly reviewed and discussed approaches that are used for the surveillance and modeling of infectious disease dynamics, while a more detailed review by [2], also discussed the application programming interface for extending package EpiMode. Multiscale modeling also has been proposed to deal with infectious diseases. Unlike single scale modeling, this method efficiently captures the large scale features of the system. A more detailed discussion on multiscale modeling can be found in [3–14]. Here, we restrict attention to implement the concept of Susceptible-Infected-Removed (SIR) to model and control outbreaks of COVID-19 is restricted. The researchers aim to develop and support mathematical modeling of the spread of infectious disease [1,2,15–18]. By using the homotopy perturbation and modified reduced differential transform methods, the behavior of the Coronavirus can be studied. Despite the simplicity of this model, significant outcomes are extracted that can assist potential decisions on the strategy to reduce the risk of spreading the virus. We emphasize that close contact between susceptible and infectious people is a major risk factor for contributing to infections transmitted directly in the community (see Figs. 2–6). Therefore, lower transmission is essential for controlling potential outbreaks. This can be achieved by maintaining physical distances between people and enforcing self-isolation for infected people.

Section 2 discusses the stability of the nonlinear COVID-19 model. Algebraic analysis and numerical determination of eigenvalues for the nonlinear COVID-19 model demonstrate the stability of the system. Section 3 proposes a novel signal flow chart for the SIR model (see Fig. 1), which can help in studying the topological structure of the model. Section 4 implements the homotopy analysis technique to derive the analytic approximate solution for the nonlinear Coronavirus COVID-19 in Eq. (1), while Section 5 studies the approximate solution for the model by using MRDTM. Section 6 discusses the numerical results for the model and shows a good agreement with our predictions.

For the purposes of this discussion, let \( I(t) \) be infected individuals who are carrying the virus, and \( R(t) \) be recovered individuals. Let \( S(t) \) represents susceptible individuals, and \( \sigma \) represents
the physical contact number between susceptible and infected individuals. Then the model can be written in the following form \[17,19\]:
\[
\frac{dR}{d\tau} = I, \\
\frac{dI}{d\tau} = \sigma (1 - R - I) I - I,
\]
(1)
together with \(S(t) = 1 - R - I\). Let \(\tau = t/T\) where \(t\) represents the time in days, and \(T\) represents the time of transmission of the virus which changes from 2–4 weeks. At the start of the outbreak in day \(t = 0\), we consider the initial number of infected people is \(I(0) = 0\), and the initial recovered people is \(R(0) = 0\).

2 The Equilibrium Point and Stability of Nonlinear COVID-19 Model

This section discusses the equilibrium point and the stability of the nonlinear COVID-19 model (1).

2.1 Equilibrium Points

This subsection examines the equilibrium points of the nonlinear COVID-19 model. The model has two equilibrium points. For more insights regarding the dynamical behaviors system see [20]. Thus, by solving the next equations, the equilibrium points can be decided.
\[
\frac{dR}{d\tau} = I = 0, \\
\frac{dI}{d\tau} = \sigma (1 - R - I) I - I = 0.
\]
(2)
This System (2) has two equilibrium points: \(E_0 (0, 0)\) and \(E_1 (R, 0)\).

2.2 Studying the Stability of the Two Fixed Point

We calculate the Jacobian matrix for the Model (1) as follows:
\[
J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \sigma - 1 - \sigma R \end{pmatrix}.
\]
(3)
To study the stability of System (2), we need to study the stability of Eq. (2).

• The Jacobian matrix \(J (E_0)\) for Model (1) is given by
\[
J (E_0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \sigma - 1 \end{pmatrix}.
\]
(4)
Consequently, we have
\[
|J - \lambda I| = \begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ 0 & \sigma - 1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0.
\]
(5)
Then, the eigenvalues are given by
\( \lambda = 0 \) and \( \lambda = -1 + \sigma \),
the solution is stable if \( \sigma < 1 \).

- The Jacobian matrix \( J(E_1) \) for model (1) is given by
  \[
  J(E_1) = \begin{pmatrix}
  0 & 1 \\
  0 & \sigma - 1 - \sigma R
  \end{pmatrix}.
  \]

Consequently, we have
\[
|J - \lambda I| = \begin{vmatrix}
-\lambda & 1 \\
0 & \sigma - 1 - \sigma R - \lambda
\end{vmatrix} = 0,
\]
then, the eigenvalues are given by
\( \lambda = 0 \) and \( \lambda = \sigma - 1 - \sigma R \),
the solution is stable if \( \sigma < 1 + \sigma R \).

### 2.3 Existence of Uniformly Stable Solution

This subsection explores the existence of uniformly stable solution. Let us define
\[
\begin{align*}
\mathcal{f}_1(R, I) &= I, \\
\mathcal{f}_2(R, I) &= \sigma (1 - R - I) I - I.
\end{align*}
\]

Let \( D = \{ R, I \in \mathbb{R}: |R, I| \leq a, \ i \in [0, \tau T]\} \).

We have, at \( D \):
\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial \mathcal{f}_1}{\partial R} &= 0, & \frac{\partial \mathcal{f}_1}{\partial I} &= 1, & \frac{\partial \mathcal{f}_2}{\partial R} &= -\sigma I, & \frac{\partial \mathcal{f}_2}{\partial I} &= -1 + \sigma - \sigma R - 2\sigma I, \\
\left| \frac{\partial \mathcal{f}_1}{\partial R} \right| &\leq k_1 \Rightarrow \mathcal{f}_1 = k_1, & \left| \frac{\partial \mathcal{f}_1}{\partial I} \right| &\leq k_2 = 1, & \left| \frac{\partial \mathcal{f}_2}{\partial R} \right| &\leq k_3, & \left| \frac{\partial \mathcal{f}_2}{\partial I} \right| &\leq k_4,
\end{align*}
\]
where \( k_1, k_2, k_3, \) and \( k_4 \) are positive constants. It is suggested that every one of both capacities \( f_1 \) and \( f_2 \) agree with the Lipschitz condition as the two functions are absolutely continuous. For more information on the existence and uniqueness, see [13,14,20].

### 3 Signal Flow Graph

The signal flow graph is becoming more widely used since it empowers us with the flexibility to construct and develop the electronic circuits for dynamical frameworks. It can be utilized to delineate signals between the factors of the framework. In this section, the analysis is based upon a signal flow graph that is used to describe the COVID-19 model. More detailed discussion on the diagram theory can be found in [12–14,21]. The constructed adjacency matrix empowers us to determine all eigenvalues and the associated eigenvectors.
Fig. 1 shows the sign flow diagram $\vec{G}$ of the framework in which every vertex communicate with the condition of the framework. There is an edge $(v_1, v_2)$ if the state $v_1$ directly affects the state $v_2$.

**Figure 1:** Proposition signal flow graph of the model

In this manner, the contiguousness grid $A(\vec{G})$ is as per the following:

- **Adjacency matrix:** The signal flow graph of the system has the following adjacency matrix

$$A(\vec{G}) = \begin{bmatrix} R & I & RI & I^2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- **Eigenvalues:** The above matrix has four eigenvalues, namely $\lambda_1 = 0$, $\lambda_2 = 1.839286755$, $\lambda_3 = -0.4196433777 + 0.60629073i$ and $\lambda_4 = -0.4196433777 - 0.60629073i$.

- **Eigenvectors:** The corresponding eigenvectors to these eigenvalues are easily found to be

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1.839286755 \\ 1.543689013 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0.99999999984 + 1.450752802e(-10)i \\ -0.4196433772 + 0.6062907290i \\ 0.2281554928 - 1.115142508i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0.9999999984 - 1.450752802e(-10)i \\ -0.4196433772 - 0.6062907290i \\ 0.2281554928 + 1.115142508i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Which can help study the topological structure of the mode see [9,13].
4 HPM Approximates the Solution for Nonlinear COVID-19 Model

This section presents the analytic approximate solution to the nonlinear COVID-19 (1). By using HPM technique [22,23], we construct a homotopy \( R(t, p) : \mathbb{R}^+ \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ \), which satisfies:

\[
\frac{dR}{d\tau} - pI = 0, \tag{8}
\]

\[
\frac{dI}{d\tau} + I + \sigma p (1 - R - 1) I = 0. \tag{9}
\]

According to the HPM technique, we suppose the solutions of Eqs. (8) and (9) as a power series in \( p \), where \( p \) is the embedding small parameter:

\[
R(t) = R_0(\tau) + p R_1(\tau) + p^2 R_2(\tau) + p^3 R_3(\tau) + \cdots \tag{10}
\]

\[
I(t) = I_0(\tau) + p I_1(\tau) + p^2 I_2(\tau) + p^3 I_3(\tau) + \cdots \tag{11}
\]

Substituting Eqs. (10) and (11) into Eqs. (8) and (9), collecting the coefficients \( p \), after some calculations we obtain:

\[
\frac{dR_0(\tau)}{d\tau} = 0, \quad R_0(0) = A,
\]

\[
\frac{dR_1(\tau)}{d\tau} - I_0(\tau) = 0, \quad R_1(0) = 0,
\]

\[
\frac{dR_2(\tau)}{d\tau} - I_1(\tau) = 0, \quad R_2(0) = 0,
\]

\[
\frac{dR_3(\tau)}{d\tau} - I_2(\tau) = 0, \quad R_3(0) = 0, \tag{12}
\]

and

\[
\frac{dI_0(\tau)}{d\tau} + I_0(\tau) = 0, \quad I_0(0) = B,
\]

\[
\frac{dI_1(\tau)}{d\tau} - I_1(\tau) + \sigma p [1 - R_0(\tau) - I_0(\tau)] I_0(\tau) = 0, \quad I_1(0) = 0,
\]

\[
\frac{dI_2(\tau)}{d\tau} - I_2(\tau) + \sigma p [1 - R_1(\tau) - I_1(\tau)] I_1(\tau) = 0, \quad I_2(0) = 0, \tag{13}
\]

and so on. The above system of differential Eqs. (12) and (13) has the following solutions:

\[
R_0(\tau) = A,
\]

\[
R_1(\tau) = -B e^{-\tau} + B,
\]

\[
R_2(\tau) = \sigma B \left[ -B \left( -\tau e^{-\tau} - e^{-\tau} \right) - \frac{1}{2} Be^{-2\tau} + Be^{-\tau} - \tau e^{-\tau} - e^{-\tau} \right] - \sigma B \left( \frac{3}{2} B - 1 \right), \tag{14}
\]
and

\[ I_0 (\tau) = Be^{-\tau} \]

\[ I_1 (\tau) = e^{-\tau} \left[ -\sigma B (B\tau - Be^{-\tau} - \tau) - \sigma B^2 \right], \]

\[ I_2 (\tau) = \frac{1}{2} \sigma Be^{-\tau} \left( 4\sigma B^2 - 2\sigma B + 2B \right) - \frac{1}{2} \sigma Be^{-\tau} \left[ 4\sigma B^2 \tau e^{-\tau} + 6\sigma B^2 e^{-\tau} - 2\sigma B^2 e^{-2\tau} - \sigma B^2 \tau^2 \right. \]

\[-2\sigma B^2 \tau - 2\sigma Be^{-\tau} + 2\sigma B\tau + 2\sigma B^2 e^{-\tau} - 4e^{-\tau} \sigma B\tau + 2B\tau + 2Be^{-\tau} - \sigma \tau^2 \bigg], \quad (15)\]

and so on. If \( p \to 1 \) the analytic approximate solution takes the following form:

\[ R (\tau) = A - Be^{-\tau} + B + \sigma B \left[ -B ( -\tau e^{-\tau} - e^{-\tau}) - \frac{1}{2} Be^{-2\tau} + Be^{-\tau} - \tau e^{-\tau} - e^{-\tau} \right] - \sigma B \left( \frac{3}{2} B - 1 \right), \]

\[ (16) \]

\[ I (\tau) = Be^{-\tau} + e^{-\tau} \left[ -\sigma B (B\tau - Be^{-\tau} - \tau) - \sigma B^2 \right] + \frac{1}{2} \sigma Be^{-\tau} \left( 4\sigma B^2 - 2\sigma B + 2B \right) \]

\[-\sigma B^2 \tau e^{-\tau} + 6\sigma B^2 e^{-\tau} - 2\sigma B^2 e^{-2\tau} - \sigma B^2 \tau^2 - 2\sigma B^2 \tau - 2\sigma Be^{-\tau} \bigg] \right], \quad (17)\]

Figs. 2–5 discuss the behavior of the approximate solution (16) and (17), where \( A = 0.001 \) and \( B = 0.01 \).

![Figure 2: The evolution of the outbreak depends on the contact number \( \sigma \)](image-url)
Figure 3: Solutions of the COVID-19 model over 200 days with an initial recovered individuals of 0. The recovered fractions as a function of time $t$.

Figure 4: Solutions of the COVID-19 model over 200 days with an initial infected individuals of 0.1, an initial recovered individuals of 0, and a contact rate $\sigma$ of 3.

Figure 5: Evolution of the asymptotic fraction of infected individuals as a function of contact number $\sigma$. 
5 RDTM Method Approximates the Solution for Nonlinear COVID-19 Model

In this section, we study the approximate solution to the nonlinear coronavirus Model (1) which is subject to the initial conditions at the beginning of the outbreak $R(0) = 0$, and $I(0) = 0.001$. Applying the RDT technique [24–29], we obtain the following iteration relations:

$$(k + 1)R_{k+1}(\tau) = I_k(\tau),$$

$$(k + 1)I_{k+1}(\tau) = (\sigma - 1)I_k(\tau) - \sigma \sum_{r=0}^{k} I_r(\tau)I_{k-r}(\tau) - \sigma \sum_{r=0}^{k} R_r(\tau)I_{k-r}(\tau),$$

or

$$R_{k+1}(\tau) = \frac{I_k(\tau)}{(k + 1)},$$

$$I_{k+1}(\tau) = \frac{1}{(k + 1)} \left[ (\sigma - 1)I_k(\tau) - \sigma \sum_{r=0}^{k} I_r(\tau)I_{k-r}(\tau) - \sigma \sum_{r=0}^{k} R_r(\tau)I_{k-r}(\tau) \right].$$

Finally, the differential inverse transforms are given by:

$$I(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{N} I_n (t/T)^n, \quad R(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{N} R_n (t/T)^n. \quad (18)$$

Consequently, after some calculations we get the approximate series solutions as

$$I(t) = 0.001 \left( \frac{t}{T} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{t}{T} \right)^2 \left[ 0.001 (\sigma - 1) - \sigma \times 10^{-6} \right]$$

$$+ \frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{t}{T} \right)^3 \left[ 0.001 (\sigma - 1) - \sigma \times 10^{-6} \right] (\sigma - 1) - \sigma \times 10^{-6} - 0.002 \left[ 0.001 (\sigma - 1) - \sigma \times 10^{-6} \right] \sigma +$$
\[ R(t) = 0.001 + \left( \frac{t}{T} \right) \left[ 0.001 (\sigma - 1) - \sigma \times 10^{-6} \right] \]
\[ + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{t}{T} \right)^2 \left[ 0.001 (\sigma - 1) - \sigma \times 10^{-6} \right] (\sigma - 1) - \sigma \times 10^{-6} \]
\[ - 0.002 \left[ 0.001 (\sigma - 1) - \sigma \times 10^{-6} \right] \sigma + \ldots \]

Tab. 1 shows how the number of susceptible, infected, and recovered individuals changes over 20 days.

**Table 1:** Outbreak of the COVID-19 over 20 days. The initial infected people is 10\(^{-3}\), the initial recovered people is 0, the transmission rate \(\sigma\) is 2.5

| Days (t) | \(R(t)\) | \(I(t)\) | \(S(t)\) | \(I(t) + S(t) + R(t)\) |
|---------|---------|---------|--------|-----------------|
| 0       | 0       | 0.001   | 0.999  | \(\approx 1\)   |
| 2       | 0.000106837 | 0.0011587 | 0.998734 | \(\approx 1\)   |
| 4       | 0.000224992 | 0.00132914 | 0.998446 | \(\approx 1\)   |
| 6       | 0.000351346 | 0.00150273 | 0.998146 | \(\approx 1\)   |
| 8       | 0.00048327 | 0.00167298 | 0.997844 | \(\approx 1\)   |
| 10      | 0.00061856 | 0.001835 | 0.997546 | \(\approx 1\)   |
| 12      | 0.000755383 | 0.00198522 | 0.997259 | \(\approx 1\)   |
| 14      | 0.000892221 | 0.00212117 | 0.996987 | \(\approx 1\)   |
| 16      | 0.00102783 | 0.00224128 | 0.996731 | \(\approx 1\)   |
| 18      | 0.000116122 | 0.00234466 | 0.996494 | \(\approx 1\)   |
| 20      | 0.00129156 | 0.00243101 | 0.996277 | \(\approx 1\)   |

6 Numerical Simulations and Discussion

This section presents numerical simulations to illustrate the key aspects of the development of analysis of COVID-19. Figs. 2–4 illustrate a typical scenario for the dynamical behavior of COVID-19. The spread of the virus grows exponentially until much of the population is infected or recovered, at which point the risk of infections begins to decline. Fig. 2 shows that the risk of spreading the virus depends on the contact number \(\sigma\) between susceptible and infected people. It is clear that as the contact number \(\sigma\) increases; the proportion of infected people increases rapidly, resulting in a decreasing number of susceptible populations (Fig. 3). The importance of physical distance can be understood by reducing the contact number between susceptible and infected people from \(\sigma = 3\) to \(\sigma = 1.7\).

As shown in Fig. 3, the coronavirus outbreak could reach its peak on around day 35–40, with almost 28% of the population infected, while 20% of the population recovered from the disease. Most importantly, it is obvious that towards the end of the epidemic, around 60% of people remain susceptible, this means the susceptible people escaping from contracting infectious diseases and the COVID-19 has died out before everyone in the population has contracted it. Figs. 5 and 6 represent respectively, the evolution of the asymptotic fraction of infected and recovered individuals as a function of physical contact number \(\sigma\).
7 Conclusion

This article explores the behavior of COVID-19 model by using the homotopy perturbation and modified reduced differential transform methods. The free disease equilibrium and stability point for the COVID-19 model are discussed. The model is described by a novel signal flow chart. Through our mathematical studies, the severity of the virus is clarified, which shows more influence by increasing the contact number. The numerical simulations demonstrate that the close connect between susceptible and infectious individuals is a major risk factor for spreading the virus while maintaining physical distance is essential to reduce the risk of spreading the virus.

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