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## R-K type Landweber method for nonlinear ill-posed problems

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#### Abstract

In this paper we propose the R-K type Landweber iteration and investigate the convergence of the method for nonlinear ill-posed problem F(x) = y where  $F: H \to H$  is a nonlinear operator between Hilbert space H. Moreover, for perturbed data with noise level  $\delta$  we prove that the convergence rate is  $O(\delta^{2/3})$  under appropriate conditions. Finally, the numerical performance of this R-K type Landweber iteration for a nonlinear convolution equation is compared with the Landweber iteration. © 2006 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.

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#### 1. Introduction

Let us consider a nonlinear operator equation

$$F(x) = y, \quad F: H \to H \tag{1.1}$$

in a real Hilbert space H (Eq. (1.1) in a complex Hilbert space can be treated similarly), where F is a nonlinear operator with domain H with corresponding inner products  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  and norms  $\|\cdot\|$ , respectively. Throughout this paper we assume that  $y^{\delta} \in H$  are the available approximate data with

$$||y - y^{\delta}|| \leq \delta, \tag{1.2}$$

where  $\delta$  denotes the noise level, that (1.1) has a solution  $x^*$  (which need not be unique) and F possesses a locally uniformly bounded  $Fr\acute{e}chet$ -derivative  $F'(\cdot)$  in a ball  $B_r(x_0)$  of radius r around  $x_0 \in H$ .

In the theory of ill-posed problems many methods for nonlinear ill-posed problems are known. One of the best understood regularization theory for nonlinear ill-posed inverse problems is the method of Tikhonov regularization [5,2]. In contrast to Tikhonov regularization, iteration methods [6,4] produce an approximation to the solution within every iteration step. Several iteration methods for nonlinear operators were under investigation during the last years. In the paper of Hanke et al. [4] the well known Landweber iteration for linear ill-posed problems [3] has been extended to the nonlinear case.

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There have some achievements to the study of the dynamical system up to now. Airapetyan and Ramm [1] have posed a general approach to continuous analogs of discrete methods and established fairly general convergence theorems aiming at the following dynamical system:

$$\dot{x}(t) = \Phi(x(t), t), \quad x(0) = x_0, \tag{1.3}$$

where  $\Phi$  is a nonlinear operator,  $\Phi: H \times [0, +\infty) \to H$ . Meanwhile, they constructed the discrete schemes generated by this continuous process:

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + \omega \Phi(x_k, t_k), \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$
 (1.4)

In 2003, Ramm [7] proved the global convergence for ill-posed equations with monotone operators. In [9], Tautenhahn studied the continuous Landweber method:

$$\dot{x}(t) = -F'(x(t))^* [F(x(t)) - y], \quad x(0) = x_0 \in H. \tag{1.5}$$

Here  $x_0 \in H$  is some element. (In this case the noise level  $\delta = 0$ .)

When the noise level  $\delta \neq 0$ , a regularized approximation  $x^{\delta}(T)$  of  $x^*$  is obtained by solving the initial value problem:

$$x^{\delta}(t) := F'(x^{\delta}(t))^* [y^{\delta} - F(x^{\delta}(t))], \quad 0 < t \le T, \ x^{\delta}(0) = x_0, \tag{1.6}$$

where T plays the role of the regularization parameter. If we use Euler's method with a step size r = 1 to discrete (1.6), we can obtain the usual Landweber iteration:

$$x_{k+1}^{\delta} = x_k^{\delta} - F'(x_k^{\delta})^* [F(x_k^{\delta}) - y^{\delta}].$$

Tautenhahn uses the following assumption to study the convergence of continuous Landweber method: (A1) In a Ball  $B_r(x_0)$  of radius r around  $x_0$  there holds:

$$||F(\tilde{x}) - F(x) - F'(x)(\tilde{x} - x)|| \le \eta ||F(x) - F(\tilde{x})||, \quad \eta < 1$$

for all  $x, \tilde{x} \in B_r(x_0) \subset H$ . This assumption guarantees that for all  $x, \tilde{x} \in B_r(x_0)$  there holds

$$\frac{1}{1+\eta} \|F'(x)(x-\tilde{x})\| \leqslant \|F(x) - F(\tilde{x})\| \leqslant \frac{1}{1-\eta} \|F'(x)(x-\tilde{x})\|. \tag{1.7}$$

Proposition 1 in [9] shows that the discrepancy  $||F(x^{\delta}(T)) - y^{\delta}||$  as a function of T is monotone non-increasing. Furthermore, it shows that the error  $||x^{\delta}(T) - x^*||$  as a function of T is strong monotonically decreasing as far as  $||F(x^{\delta}(T)) - y^{\delta}|| \ge \tau \delta$  holds with  $\tau = (1 + \eta)/(1 - \eta)$ . Hence, it makes sense to choose the regularization parameter in (1.5) from a discrepancy principle, i.e.,  $T = T^*$  is a solution of the nonlinear equation

$$h(T) = ||F(x^{\delta}(T)) - y^{\delta}|| - \tau \delta = 0,$$
 (1.8)

with  $\tau > (1 + \eta)/(1 - \eta)$ .

We also know that under some conditions Eq. (1.8) has a unique solution  $T^* < \infty$  from Proposition 2 in [2].

In the following two theorems Tautenhahn proved convergence properties of method (1.6) when noise level  $\delta = 0$  and  $\delta \neq 0$ , respectively.

**Theorem 1.1** (Tautenhahn [9]). Let (1.2) and (A1) be satisfied. If (1.1) is solvable in  $B_r(x_0)$ , then

$$x(T) \to x^* \quad for \ T \to \infty$$
 (1.9)

(convergence for exact data), where  $x^* \in B_r(x_0)$  is a solution of (1.1). Let  $x^{\dagger}$  denote the unique solution of minimal distance to  $x_0$ , then, if in addition  $N(F'(x^{\dagger})) \subset N(F'(x))$  for all  $x \in B_r(x_0)$ , then x(T) converges to  $x^{\dagger}$ .

In this paper,  $N(\cdot)$  denotes the null space of an operator.

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