APPROXIMATE ANALYTICAL SOLUTIONS TO THE RELATIVISTIC ISOTHERMAL GAS SPHERES

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ABSTRACT

In this paper we introduce a novel analytical solution to Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff (TOV) equation, which is ultimately a hydrostatic equilibrium equation derived from general relativity in the framework of relativistic isothermal spheres. To improve the convergence radii of the obtained series solutions, a combination of an Euler-Abel transformation and a Padé approximation has been done. The solutions are given in the $\xi$-$\theta$ and $\xi$-$\nu$ phase planes taking into account the general relativistic effects $\sigma = 0.1$, $0.2$ and $0.3$. A comparison between the results obtained by the suggested approach and the numerical one indicates a good agreement, with a maximum relative error of order $10^{-3}$, which establishes the validity and accuracy of the method. The proposed procedure accelerated the power series solution about ten times that of the traditional one. An application to a neutron star is presented.

RESUMEN

Presentamos una solución analítica novedosa para la ecuación de Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff (TOV), que resulta ser una ecuación de equilibrio hidrostático derivada de la relatividad general, dentro del marco de las esferas isotérmicas relativa. Para mejorar los radios de convergencia de las soluciones en serie obtenidas se han combinado las aproximaciones de Euler-Abel y Padé. Las soluciones se proporcionan en los planos de fase $\xi$-$\theta$ y $\xi$-$\nu$, tomando en cuenta efectos de relatividad general con $\sigma = 0.1$, $0.2$, y $0.3$. La comparación entre los resultados que obtenemos y las soluciones numéricas indican una buena concordancia, dentro de un error máximo relativo del orden de $10^{-3}$, con lo cual queda establecida la validez y la precisión del método. El procedimiento propuesto acelera la solución en series de potencia por un factor de 10, respecto al procedimiento tradicional. Se presenta una aplicación a una estrella neutrón.

Key Words: equation of state — methods: analytical — stars: neutron — relativistic processes

1. INTRODUCTION

Isothermal models play an important role in many astrophysical problems, in particular in stellar structure and galactic dynamics (Chandrasekhar 1939; Binney & Tremaine 1987; Rose 1998; Chavanis 2002, 2008). Regarding stellar structure and evolution theory, one can obtain the behavior of the physical variables through the isothermal self-gravitating spheres. In the equation of state $P = K\rho^{1+1/n}$ (where $P$ is the pressure, $\rho$ is the density and $K$ is the polytropic constant), the polytropic index $n$ ranges from 0 to $\infty$ (Liu 1996; Mirza 2009). In galactic dynamics, the polytropic index $n$ is larger than 0.5 and the Lane-Emden equation for isothermal configurations is considered as a generating function of potential models for flattened galactic systems (Binney & Tremaine 1987).

In the framework of Newtonian mechanics (non-relativistic), isothermal spheres have been much investigated by many authors (Milgrom 1984; Liu 1996; Natarajan & Lynden-Bell 1997; Roxburgh &

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of the star of radius $M_r$ isothermal configurations are of finite extent. The technique. His results show that general relativity concisely and simple form using a Padé approximation to the TOV equation of hydrostatic equilibrium in a framework of general relativity with a linear equation of state $P = qe$ ($\epsilon$ : the mass-energy density, $P$: pressure and $q \to 0$ for Newtonian gravity). Sharma (1990) introduced approximate analytical solutions to the TOV equation of hydrostatic equilibrium in a concise and simple form using a Padé approximation technique. His results show that general relativity isothermal configurations are of finite extent. The geometrical size derived by Sharma (1990), $\xi = \xi_1$, for the configurations is limited to $\xi_1 = 2$.

Due to the lack of a full analytical solution to the TOV equation of hydrostatic equilibrium and the importance of the study of relativistic isothermal configurations for various astronomical objects, we introduce a new approximate analytical solution to the Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff (TOV) equation based on a combination of the two techniques: the Euler-Abel transformation and the Padé approximation (Nouh & Saad 2013). The constructed analytical solution is in a general form such that we can increase the number of terms of the series solution for the desired accuracy. We display the solution curves in the $\xi$-$\theta$ and $\xi$-$\nu$ phase planes for three general relativistic effects $\sigma = 0.1, 0.2$ and $0.3$. The proposed method is promising and can examine efficiently the behavior of the physical parameters of stars, such as density, pressure, temperature, etc. from the center towards the surface.

2. FORMULATIONS

The Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff equation of the isothermal gas sphere could be given by Sharma (1990).

$$\frac{dP}{dr} = - \left( \frac{GM_r}{r^2} \right) \rho + \left( \frac{P}{c^2} \right) (1 + \frac{4 \pi P r^3}{M_c c^2}) \left( \frac{1}{1 - \frac{2GM_r}{rc^2}} \right),$$

(1)

where $M_r$ is the total mass energy or “effective mass” of the star of radius $r$ including its gravitational field, that is,

$$M_r = \frac{4\pi}{c^2} \int_0^r \rho c^2 r^2 dr.$$  

(2)

Define the variables, $\xi$, $\theta$, $\nu$ and the relativistic parameter $\sigma$ by the following equations.

$$\xi = rA; \rho = \rho_c e^{-\theta}; M_r = \frac{4\pi \rho_c A^3}{3} \nu(\xi); A^2 = 4\pi G \rho_c / \sigma c^2,$$

(3)

$$\sigma = \frac{P_c}{\rho c^2},$$

(4)

where $\rho_c$ and $P_c$ define the central density and central pressure of the star respectively. $\nu$ is the mass function of radius $\xi$, and $c$ is the speed of light. Equations (1) and (2) can be transformed into the dimensionless forms in the ($\xi$, $\theta$) plane as:

$$\frac{(1 - 2 \sigma \nu(\xi)/\xi)}{1 + \sigma} + \xi^2 \frac{d\theta}{d\xi} - \nu(\xi) - \sigma e^{-\theta} \xi^3 = 0,$$

(5)

$$\frac{d\nu}{d\xi} = \xi^2 e^{-\theta},$$

(6)

which satisfy the initial conditions

$$\theta(0) = 0; \frac{d\theta(0)}{d\xi} = 0; \nu(0) = 0.$$

(7)

If the pressure is much smaller than the energy density at the center of a star (i.e. $\sigma$ tends to zero), the non-relativistic case, then the systems (5) and (6) reduce to yield the classical non degenerate isothermal structure equations (Chandrasekhar 1939)

$$\frac{1}{\xi^2} \frac{d}{d\xi} (\xi^2 \frac{d\theta}{d\xi}) = e^{-\theta}.$$

(8)

3. SERIES SOLUTION

Equation (5) can be written in the form

$$\xi^2 \frac{d\theta}{d\xi} - 2 \sigma \nu(\xi) \frac{d\theta}{d\xi} - \nu - \sigma \nu - \sigma e^{-\theta} \xi^3 - \sigma^2 e^{-\theta} \xi^3 = 0.$$  

(9)

Consider a series expansion near the origin $\xi = 0$, of the form

$$\theta(\xi) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \xi^{2k},$$

(10)

that satisfies the initial conditions (7); at $\theta(0) = 0$ yields $a_0 = 0$; then

$$\frac{d\theta}{d\xi} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2k a_k \xi^{2k-1},$$

(11)
\[ \xi \frac{d\theta}{d\xi} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2k a_k \xi^{2k}. \] 

(12)

Multiplying equation (11) by \( \xi^2 \) yields

\[ \xi^2 \frac{d\theta}{d\xi} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2k a_k \xi^{2k+1}. \] 

(13)

With the help of some algebraic operations on series (Nouh and Saad 2013), we obtain:

\[ e^{-\vartheta} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k \xi^{2k}; \quad a_0 = e^{(-a_0)}; \]

\[ a_k = -\frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^{k} i a_i a_{k-i}, \; \forall k \geq 1. \]

(14)

Inserting Equation (9) in Equation (6) yields

\[ \frac{d\nu}{d\xi} = \xi^2 \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k \xi^{2k} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k \xi^{2k+2}. \] 

(15)

Integrating both sides of the last equation gives

\[ \nu = \int \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k \xi^{2k+2} d\xi = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_k}{2k + 3} \xi^{2k+3}. \] 

(16)

Multiplying both sides of equation (12) by \( \nu \) and using equation (16) we obtain:

\[ \xi \frac{d\theta}{d\xi} \nu = \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} f_k \xi^{2k+2} \right) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} g_k \xi^{2k+3} \right). \] 

(17)

Let

\[ f_k = 2(k+1)a_{k+1}, \; \text{and} \; g_k = \frac{a_k}{2k + 3}, \] 

(18)

then

\[ \xi \frac{d\theta}{d\xi} \nu = \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} f_k \xi^{2k+2} \right) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} g_k \xi^{2k+3} \right). \] 

(19)

Implementing the formula of multiplication of two series (Nouh & Saad 2013), Equation (19) becomes:

\[ \xi \frac{d\theta}{d\xi} \nu = \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} f_k \xi^{2k+2} \right) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} g_k \xi^{2k+3} \right) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \gamma_k \xi^{2k+5}, \] 

(20)

where

\[ \gamma_k = \sum_{i=0}^{k} f_i g_{k-i}. \]

(21)

Substituting equations (13), (14), (16) and (20) in equation (9) yields:

\[ \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[ 2(k+1)a_{k+1} - 2\sigma \gamma_{k+1} - \frac{a_k}{2k + 3} \right] \xi^{2k+3} = 0, \] 

(22)

that is,

\[ 2(k+1)a_{k+1} - 2\sigma \gamma_{k+1} - \frac{a_k}{2k + 3} - \sigma \frac{a_k}{2k + 3} - \sigma a_k - \sigma^2 a_k = 0. \]

Then, the series coefficients formula has the form:

\[ a_{k+1} = \frac{1}{2(k+1)} \left[ 2\sigma \gamma_{k+1} + \frac{a_k}{2k + 3} + \sigma \frac{a_k}{2k + 3} + \sigma a_k + \sigma^2 a_k \right], \] 

(23)

where

\[ \gamma_{k+1} = \sum_{i=0}^{k} f_i g_{k+i}; \quad a_k = -\frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^{k} i a_i a_{k-i}; \]

\[ \forall k \geq 1, \; a_0 = e^{(-a_0)}; \; a_0 = 0. \]

(24)

For example, the coefficient \( a_1 \) can be computed from

\[ a_1 = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{3} + \sigma + \sigma^2 \right] = \frac{1}{6} (1 + \sigma)(1 + 3\sigma). \]

(25)

Considering \( \sigma = 0 \) in equation (18), we get \( a_1 = \frac{1}{6} \) which is the first series term in the case of the non-relativistic Lane-Emden solution.

4. RESULTS

The analytical solution of equations (5) and (6) with the given initial conditions in equation (7) determines the relativistic structure of the configuration. This solution is represented by equation (10) together with equations (23) to (25). The radius of convergence \( \xi_1 \) of the power series solution without applying any acceleration techniques is limited. Tables 1, 2 and 3 show the solutions \( \theta(\xi_1) \), the mass function \( \nu(\xi_1) \) and the errors between analytical and numerical solutions \( \varepsilon_1 \) and \( \varepsilon_2 \) respectively. It is found that the maximum radii of convergence for the relativistic effects \( \sigma = 0.1, 0.2 \) and 0.3 are 3.58, 3.23 and 2.8 respectively. Beyond the mentioned values, the power series solution is either slowly convergent.
or divergent. It is worth noting that we have used the fourth order Runge-Kutta method for the numerical solution of the TOV equation.

Therefore, it was necessary to improve the power series solution of the TOV relativistic equation, which in turn contributes to obtain a better approximation to the physical parameters of stars. A combination of the two techniques for the Euler-Abel transformation and the Padé approximation (Noah 2004; Noah & Saad 2013) has been utilized. Figures 1, 2 and 3 represent the solution curves of the TOV equation in the $\xi-\theta$ phase plane for the general relativistic effects $\sigma = 0.1, 0.2$ and 0.3, respectively. Each figure displays both analytical (dashed line) and numerical (solid line) solutions.
Fig. 1. Solution of the TOV equation in the $\xi-\theta$ phase plane for general relativistic effect $\sigma = 0.1$. Comparison between analytical (dashed) and numerical (solid) solutions gives a maximum relative error of order $10^{-3}$.

Fig. 2. Solution of the TOV equation in the $\xi-\theta$ phase plane for general relativistic effect $\sigma = 0.2$. Comparison between analytical (dashed) and numerical (solid) solutions gives a maximum relative error of order $10^{-3}$.

Fig. 3. Solution of the TOV equation in the $\xi-\theta$ phase plane for general relativistic effect $\sigma = 0.3$. Comparison between analytical (dashed) and numerical (solid) solutions gives a maximum relative error of order $10^{-2}$.

Fig. 4. Mass function $\nu(\xi)$ in the $\xi-\nu$ phase plane for general relativistic effect $\sigma = 0.1$. Comparison between analytical (dashed) and numerical (solid) solutions gives a maximum relative error of order $10^{-3}$.

4.1. Application to Neutron Stars

The aim of the study of stellar structure, either in the framework of Newtonian mechanics (non-relativistic) or in the framework of general relativity (relativistic) is to investigate and examine the behavior of the physical parameters, such as pressure, density, temperature, mass, etc., and to determine the mass-radius relation. In this context, the proposed analytical solution in the present paper was applied to a neutron star with the physical parameters: mass $M = 1.5 M_\odot$, central density $\rho_c = 5.75 \times 10^{14} \text{ g cm}^{-3}$, pressure $P = 2 \times 10^{33} \text{ bar}$, and numerical (solid line) solutions and their relative error. The maximum relative error was of order $10^{-3}$ for $\sigma = 0.1, 0.2$, while for $\sigma = 0.3$ the relative error was of order $10^{-2}$. In the same way, Figures 4, 5 and 6 show the solution curves in the $\xi-\nu$ phase plane for the general relativistic effects $\sigma = 0.1, 0.2$ and $\sigma = 0.3$ respectively. When comparing the accelerated solution with the numerical one, we found that the series tends to converge slowly for $\xi > 20$. The most important finding is that the physical range of the convergent power series solutions extended to around ten times that of the classical procedures.
Fig. 5. Mass function $\nu(\xi)$ in the $\xi-\nu$ phase plane for general relativistic effect $\sigma = 0.2$. Comparison between analytical (dashed) and numerical (solid) solutions gives a maximum relative error of order $10^{-3}$.

Fig. 6. Mass function $\nu(\xi)$ in the $\xi-\nu$ phase plane for general relativistic effect $\sigma = 0.3$. Comparison between analytical (dashed) and numerical (solid) solutions gives a maximum relative error of order $10^{-2}$.

Fig. 7. Density profile for isothermal spheres with relativistic effects $\sigma = 0.1$. Comparison between analytical (solid) and numerical (dashed) solutions gives a maximum relative error of order $10^{-4}$.

Fig. 8. Density profile for isothermal spheres with relativistic effects $\sigma = 0.2$. Comparison between analytical (solid) and numerical (dashed) solutions gives a maximum relative error of order $10^{-4}$.

Fig. 9. Density profile for isothermal spheres with relativistic effects $\sigma = 0.3$. Comparison between analytical (solid) and numerical (dashed) solutions gives a maximum relative error of order $10^{-4}$.

and radius $R = 1.4 \times 10^6$ cm. Tables 4, 5 and 6 show the physical parameters of a neutron star obtained from a direct analytical solution of the TOV equation with the relativistic isothermal configurations $\sigma = 0.1, 0.2$ and 0.3. The tables give the mass ratio $M/M_0$ in the first column and the error between analytical and numerical $\varepsilon_1$, while Columns 3 and 4 show the density ratio $\rho/\rho_c$ and its error $\varepsilon_2$. The error is increasing gradually and the radius of convergence of the power series solution is limited. Therefore, the calculated physical parameters have poor accuracy.

On the other hand, manipulation of the analytical solution by means of the proposed procedure improved the solution, which of course will be reflected on the accuracy of the estimated physical parameters. Figures 7, 8 and 9 describe the density profile for isothermal spheres with relativistic effects $\sigma = 0.1, 0.2$ and 0.3. As shown, the density decreases with increasing radius of the star. In all the figures the analytical and numerical curves cannot be distinguished. A comparison between analytical (solid) and numerical (dashed) solutions gives a maximum relative error of order $10^{-4}$. Figures 10, 11 and 12 plot the analytical and numerical values of the ratios $M/M_0$ and their errors.
5. CONCLUSIONS

We have constructed general analytical formulations for solving the hydrostatic equilibrium equation (TOV equation) in the framework of relativistic isothermal gas spheres. Traditional procedures for its solution were not effective and the radius of convergence of the power series solution was limited, as shown in Tables 1, 2 and 3. That is, the maximum radii of convergence for the relativistic effects $\sigma = 0.1, 0.2$ and $0.3$ were $\xi_1 = 3.58, \xi_1 = 3.23$ and $\xi_1 = 2.8$, respectively. When we improved the power series solution utilizing a combination of the
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Comparison between analytical (solid) and numerical (dashed) solutions gives a maximum relative error of order $10^{-2}$.

The analytical solution derived in the present paper may be a good contribution to the field of stellar structure.

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