

# A Numerical Study of One-Dimensional Hyperbolic Telegraph Equation

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**Abstract:** In this paper, an approximate solution for the one-dimensional hyperbolic telegraph equation by using the q-homotopy analysis method (q-HAM) is proposed. The results show that the convergence of the q-homotopy analysis method is more accurate than the convergence of the homotopy analysis method (HAM).

**Key words:** q-Homotopy analysis method, one-dimensional hyperbolic telegraph equation.

## 1. Introduction

The second-order linear hyperbolic telegraph equation in one-space dimension has the form:

$$u_{tt} + 2\alpha u_t + \beta^2 u = u_{xx} + f(x, t), \quad a \leq x \leq b, t \geq 0 \quad (1)$$

subject to initial conditions

$$u(x, 0) = f_1(x), a \leq x \leq b, \\ u_t(x, 0) = f_2(x), a \leq x \leq b$$

and Dirichlet boundary conditions

$$u(a, t) = g_1(t), u(b, t) = g_2(t),$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are known constant coefficients.

For  $\alpha > 0, \beta = 0$  Eq. (1) represents a damped wave equation and for  $\alpha > 0, \beta > 0$ , it is called telegraph equation.

Equations of the form Eq. (1) arise in the study of propagation of electrical signals in a cable of transmission line and wave phenomena. Interaction between convection and diffusion or reciprocal action of reaction and diffusion describes a number of nonlinear phenomena in physical, chemical and biological process [17,18,34,36]. In fact the telegraph equation is more suitable than ordinary diffusion

equation in modeling reaction diffusion for such branches of sciences. For example biologists encounter these equations in the study of pulsate blood flow in arteries and in one-dimensional random motion of bugs along a hedge [33]. Also the propagation of acoustic waves in Darcy-type porous media [35], and parallel flows of viscous Maxwell fluids [1] are just some of the phenomena governed [8,19] by Eq.(1). In [2], a numerical scheme for solving the second order one-space-dimensional linear hyperbolic equation has been presented by using the shifted Chebyshev cardinal functions. Dehghan and Shokri [3,4] have studied a numerical scheme to solve one and two-dimensional hyperbolic equations using collocation points and the thin-plate-spline radial basis functions. In [34], a numerical method, based on the combination of a high-order compact finite-difference scheme was used to approximate the spatial derivative and the collocation technique for the time component was proposed to solve the one-space-dimensional linear hyperbolic equation. Dehghan and Mohebbi [5] have developed an efficient approach for solving the two dimensional linear hyperbolic telegraph equation, using the compact finite difference approximation of fourth order and collocation method. A numerical scheme, based on the shifted Chebyshev tau method

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was proposed in [37] to solve this equation. In [9], an explicit difference scheme has been discussed for the numerical solution of the linear hyperbolic equation of the form Eq. (1).

The standard homotopy analysis method (HAM) is an analytic method that provides series solutions for nonlinear partial differential equations and has been firstly proposed by Liao 1992. Liao [20-31] developed and applied the homotopy analysis method(HAM) to deal with a lot of nonlinear problems. The HAM provides a simple way to ensure the convergence of a solution in a series form under certain conditions. The Homotopy Analysis Method (HAM) is based on homotopy, a fundamental concept in topology. Briefly, in HAM, one constructs a continuous mapping of an initial guess approximation to the exact solution of the problems to be considered. An auxiliary linear operator is chosen to construct such kind of continuous mapping and an auxiliary parameter is used to ensure convergence of the solution series. The method enjoys great freedom in choosing initial approximation and auxiliary linear operator. In 2004, Liao published the book [32] in which he summarized the basic ideas of the homotopy analysis method and gave the details of his approach both in the theory and on a large number of practical examples.

El-Tawil and Huseen [6] proposed a method namely q-homotopy analysis method (q-HAM) which is a more general method of HAM. The essential idea of this method is to introduce a homotopy parameter, say  $q$ , which varies from 0 to  $1/n$ ,  $n \geq 1$  and a nonzero auxiliary parameter  $h$ . At  $q = 0$ , the system of equations usually has been reduced to a simplified form which normally admits a rather simple solution. As  $q$  gradually increases continuously toward  $1/n$ , the system goes through a sequence of deformations, and the solution at each stage is close to that at the previous stage of the deformation. Eventually at  $q = 1/n$ , the system takes the original form of the equation and the final

stage of the deformation gives the desired solution. The q-HAM has been successfully applied to numerous problems in science and engineering [6, 7, 11-16].

## 2. q-Homotopy Analysis Method (q-HAM)

Consider the following differential equation:

$$N[u(x, t)] - f(x, t) = 0 \quad (2)$$

where  $N$  is a nonlinear operator,  $(x, t)$  denotes independent variables,  $f(x, t)$  is a known function and  $u(x, t)$  is an unknown function.

Let us construct the so-called zero-order deformation equation:

$$(1 - nq)L[\phi(x, t; q) - u_0(x, t)] = qhH(x, t)(N[\phi(x, t; q)] - f(x, t)) \quad (3)$$

Where  $n \geq 1$ ,  $q \in [0, \frac{1}{n}]$  denotes the so-called embedded parameter,  $L$  is an auxiliary linear operator with the property  $L[f] = 0$  when  $f = 0$ ,  $h \neq 0$  is an auxiliary parameter,  $H(x, t)$  denotes a non-zero auxiliary function.

It is obvious that when  $q = 0$  and  $q = \frac{1}{n}$  equation (2) becomes:

$$\phi(x, t; 0) = u_0(x, t), \phi(x, t; \frac{1}{n}) = u(x, t) \quad (4)$$

respectively. Thus as  $q$  increases from 0 to  $\frac{1}{n}$ , the solution  $\phi(x, t; q)$  varies from the initial guess  $u_0(x, t)$  to the solution  $u(x, t)$ . Having the freedom to choose  $u_0(x, t), L, h, H(x, t)$ , we can assume that all of them can be properly chosen so that the solution  $\phi(x, t; q)$  of equation (3) exists for  $q \in [0, \frac{1}{n}]$ .

Expanding  $\phi(x, t; q)$  in Taylor series, one has:

$$\phi(x, t; q) = u_0(x, t) + \sum_{m=1}^{+\infty} u_m(x, t)q^m \quad (5)$$

Where:

$$u_m(x, t) = \frac{1}{m!} \frac{\partial^m \phi(x, t; q)}{\partial q^m} \Big|_{q=0} \quad (6)$$

Assume that  $h, H(x, t), u_0(x, t), L$  are so properly

chosen such that the series (5) converges at  $q = \frac{1}{n}$

and:

$$u(x, t) = \phi\left(x, t; \frac{1}{n}\right) = u_0(x, t) + \sum_{m=1}^{+\infty} u_m(x, t) \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^m \quad (7)$$

Defining the vector  $u_r(x, t) = \{u_0(x, t), u_1(x, t), u_2(x, t), \dots, u_r(x, t)\}$ , differentiating equation (3)  $m$  times with respect to  $q$  and then setting  $q = 0$  and finally dividing them by  $m!$  we have the so-called  $m^{th}$  order deformation equation:

$$L[u_m(x, t) - k_m u_{m-1}(x, t)] = hH(x, t)R_m(\bar{u}_{m-1}(x, t)), \quad (8)$$

where:

$$R_m(\bar{u}_{m-1}(x, t)) = \frac{1}{(m-1)!} \frac{\partial^{m-1}(N[\phi(x, t; q)] - f(x, t))}{\partial q^{m-1}} \Big|_{q=0} \quad (9)$$

and:

$$k_m = \begin{cases} 0 & m \leq 1 \\ n & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

It should be emphasized that  $u_m(x, t)$  for  $m \geq 1$  is governed by the linear equation (8) with linear boundary conditions that come from the original problem. Due to the existence of the factor  $\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^m$ , more chances for convergence may occur or even much faster convergence can be obtained better than the standard HAM. It should be noted that the case of  $n = 1$  in equation (2), standard HAM can be reached.

### 3. Numerical Examples

Example 3.1: The second-order hyperbolic telegraph equation of the form Eq. (1) with  $\alpha = 4, \beta = 2$  and  $f(x, t) = (2 - 2\alpha + \beta^2)\sin(x)e^{-t}$  take the form:

$$u_{tt} + 8u_t + 4u = u_{xx} - 2\sin(x)e^{-t} \quad (11)$$

The initial conditions are given by

$$u(x, 0) = \sin(x), u_t(x, 0) = -\sin(x), 0 \leq x \leq 2\pi, t \geq 0$$

The exact solution by [3,37] is

$$u(x, t) = \sin(x)e^{-t} \quad (12)$$

This problem was solved by HAM in [10]. For q-HAM solution we choose the linear operator:

$$L[\phi(x, t; q)] = \frac{\partial^2 \phi(x, t; q)}{\partial t^2} \quad (13)$$

with the property  $L[c_1 + c_2 t] = 0$ , where  $c_1, c_2$  is constants. Using initial approximation  $u_0(x, t) = \sin(x)(1 - t)$ , we define a nonlinear operator as

$$N[\phi(x, t; q)] = \frac{\partial^2 \phi(x, t; q)}{\partial t^2} + 8 \frac{\partial \phi(x, t; q)}{\partial t} + 4\phi(x, t; q) - \frac{\partial^2 \phi(x, t; q)}{\partial x^2}$$

We construct the zero order deformation equation:

$$(1 - nq)L[\phi(x, t; q) - u_0(x, t)] = qhH(x, t)N[\phi(x, t; q)].$$

we can take  $H(x, t) = 1$ , and the  $m^{th}$  order deformation equation is:

$$L[u_m(x, t) - k_m u_{m-1}(x, t)] = hR_m(\bar{u}_{m-1}(x, t)) \quad (14)$$

with the initial conditions for  $m \geq 1$

$$u_m(x, 0) = 0, \quad (15)$$

where  $k_m$  as define by (10) and

$$R_m(\bar{u}_{m-1}(x, t)) = \frac{\partial^2 u_{m-1}(x, t)}{\partial t^2} + 8 \frac{\partial u_{m-1}(x, t)}{\partial t} + 4u_{m-1}(x, t) - \frac{\partial^2 u_{m-1}(x, t)}{\partial x^2} + 2\left(1 - \frac{1}{n}k_m\right)\sin(x)e^{-t}$$

Now the solution of equation (11) for  $m \geq 1$  becomes

$$u_m(x, t) = k_m u_{m-1}(x, t) + h \int_0^t \int_0^s R_m(\bar{u}_{m-1}(x, r)) dr ds + c_1 + c_2 t$$

where the constants of integration  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are determined by the initial conditions (15).

We can obtain components of the solution using q-HAM as follows:

$$u_1(x, t) = -\frac{1}{6}h(12 - 12e^{-t} + t(-12 + t(9 + 5t)))\text{Sin}[x]$$

$$u_2(x, t) = -\frac{1}{6}hn(12 - 12e^{-t} + t(-12 + t(9 + 5t)))\text{Sin}[x] - \frac{1}{24}h^2(-96 + 96e^{-t} + t(96 + t(-36 + t(76 + 5t(11 + t)))))\text{Sin}[x]$$

$$u_3(x, t) = \frac{1}{1008}e^{-t}h^2(42n(-96 + e^t(96 - t(96 + t(-36 + t(76 + 5t(11 + t)))))) + h(8064 - e^t(8064 + t(-8064 + t(4536 + t(2520 + t(8064 + t(4704 + 5t(133 + 5t))))))))\text{Sin}[x] + n(-\frac{1}{6}hn(12 - 12e^{-t} + t(-12 + t(9 + 5t)))\text{Sin}[x] - \frac{1}{24}h^2(-96 + 96e^{-t} + t(96 + t(-36 + t(76 + 5t(11 + t)))))\text{Sin}[x])$$

$u_m(x, t), (m = 4, 5, 6, \dots)$  can be calculated similarly. Then the series solution expression by q-HAM can be written in the form:

$$u(x, t; n; h) \cong U_M(x, t; n; h) = \sum_{i=0}^M u_i(x, t; n; h) \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^i \quad (16)$$

Equation (16) is an approximate solution to the

problem (11) in terms of the convergence parameters  $h$  and  $n$ . To find the valid region of  $h$ , the  $h$ -curves given by the 15<sup>th</sup> order q-HAM approximation at  $(x = 0.5, t = 1)$  and different values of  $n$  are drawn in figures (1 – 4). These figures show the interval of  $h$  at which the value of  $U_{15}(x, t; n)$  is constant at certain values of  $x, t$  and  $n$ . We choose the horizontal line parallel to  $x$ -axis ( $h$ ) as a valid region which provides us with a simple way to adjust and control the convergence region of the series solution (16). From these figures, the region of  $h$  for the values of  $x, t$  and  $n$  in the curves becomes larger as  $n$  increase. Figure (5) shows the comparison between  $U_{15}$  of HAM and  $U_{15}$  of q-HAM using different values of  $n$  with the exact solution (12), which indicates that the speed of convergence for q-HAM with  $n > 1$  is faster in comparison with  $n = 1$ .

The absolute errors of the 15<sup>th</sup> order solutions q-HAM approximate at  $x = 1$  using different values of  $n > 1$  compared with 15<sup>th</sup> order solutions HAM approximate at  $x = 1$  are calculated by the formula

$$\text{Absolute Error} = |u_{\text{exact}} - u_{\text{approx}}| \quad (17)$$

Figures (6 – 8) show that the series solutions obtained by q-HAM at  $n > 1$  converge faster than  $n = 1$ (HAM).

Example 3.2: The second-order hyperbolic telegraph equation of the form Eq. (1) with  $\alpha = 6, \beta = 2$  and  $f(x, t) = -2\alpha \sin(x) \sin(t) + \beta^2 \cos(t) \sin(x)$  take the form:

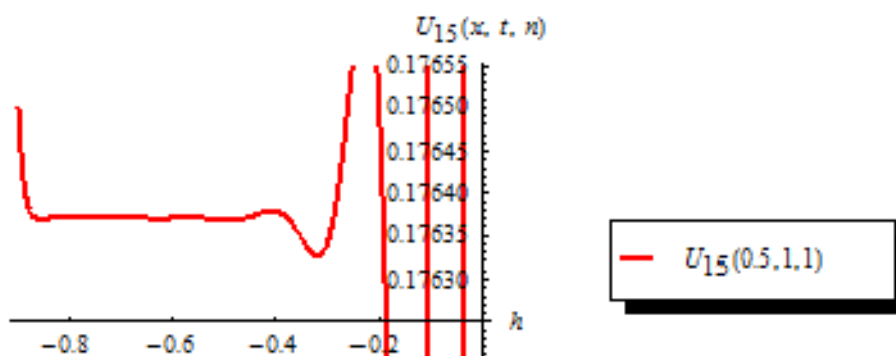


Fig. (1)  $h$  - curve for the HAM (q-HAM;  $n = 1$ ) approximation solution,  $U_{15}(0.5, 1; 1)$  of problem (11).

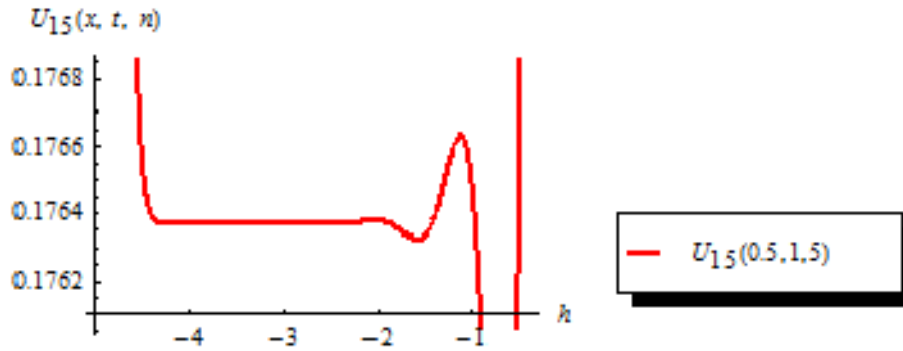


Fig. (2)  $h$  - curve for the (q-HAM;  $n = 5$ ) approximation solution,  $U_{15}(0.5, 1; 5)$  of problem (11).

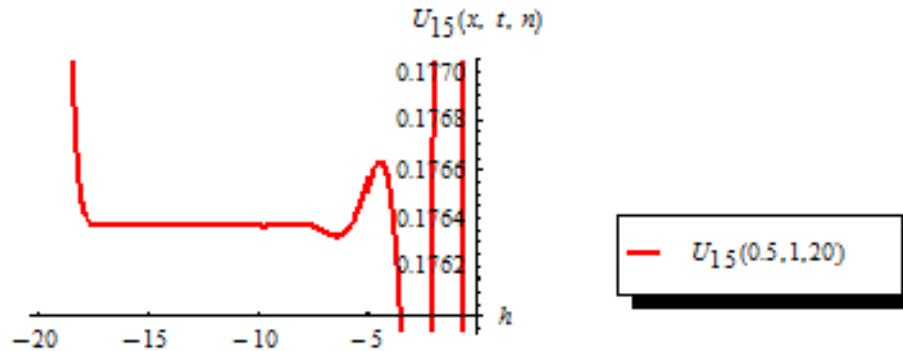


Fig. (3)  $h$  - curve for the (q-HAM;  $n = 20$ ) approximation solution,  $U_{15}(0.5, 1; 20)$  of problem (11).

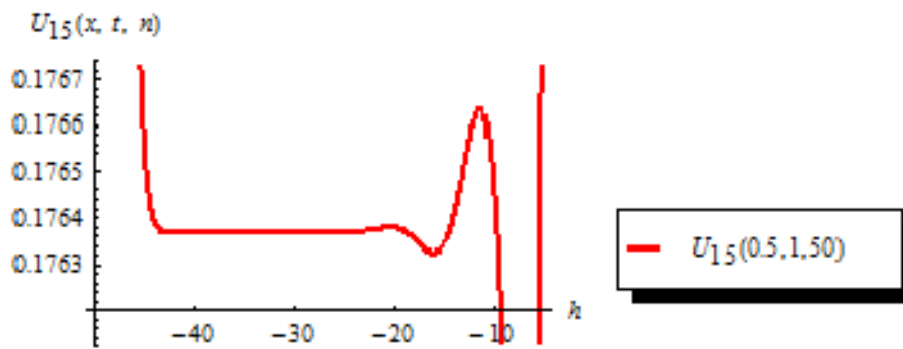


Fig. (4)  $h$  - curve for the (q-HAM;  $n = 50$ ) approximation solution,  $U_{15}(0.5, 1; 50)$  of problem (11).

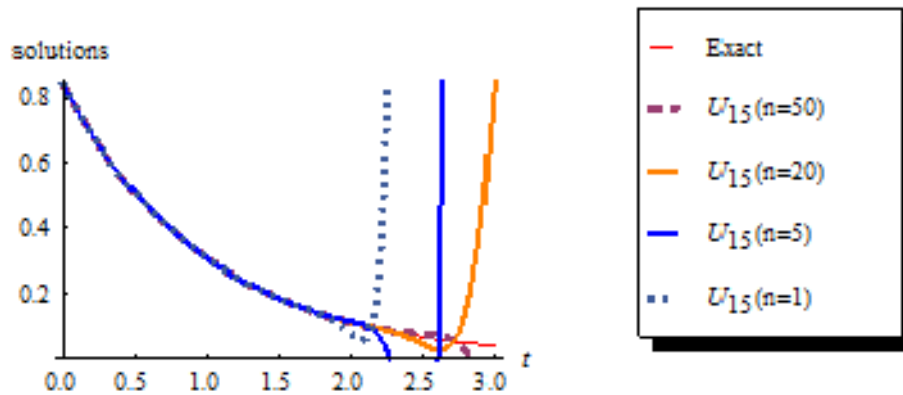


Fig. (5) Comparison between  $U_{15}$  of HAM (q-HAM ( $n = 1$ )) and q-HAM, ( $n = 5, 20, 50$ ) with the exact solution of problem (11) at  $x = 1$  with, ( $t = -0.75, h = -3.55, h = -12.2, h = -28.11$ ) respectively.

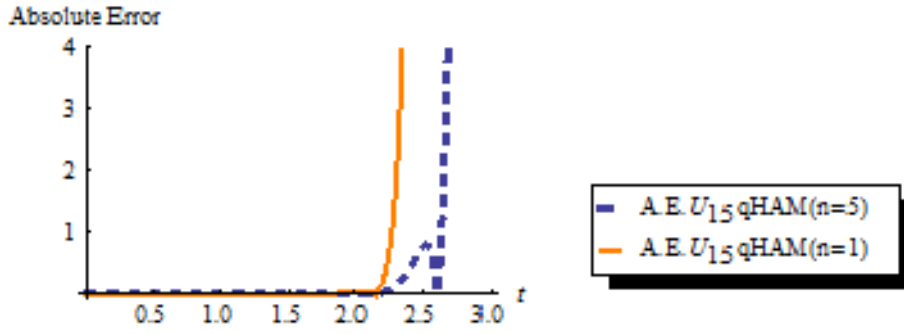


Fig. (6) The absolute errors of  $U_{15}$  of q-HAM ( $n = 1, n = 5$ ) for problem (11), at  $0 \leq t \leq 3$  and  $x = 1$  using  $h = -0.75$  and  $h = -3.55$ .

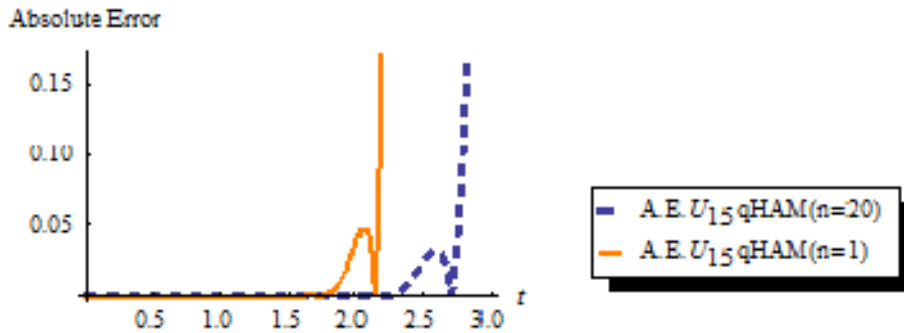


Fig. (7) The absolute errors of  $U_{15}$  of q-HAM ( $n = 1, n = 20$ ) for problem (11), at  $0 \leq t \leq 3$  and  $x = 1$  using  $h = -0.75$  and  $h = -12.2$ .

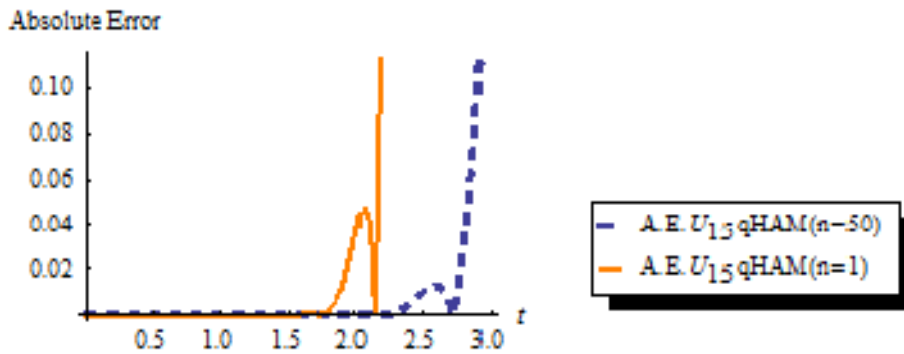


Fig. (8) The absolute errors of  $U_{15}$  of q-HAM ( $n = 1, n = 50$ ) for problem (11), at  $0 \leq t \leq 3$  and  $x = 1$  using  $h = -0.75$  and  $h = -28.11$ .

$$u_{tt} + 12u_t + 4u = u_{xx} - 12 \sin(x) \sin(t) + 4 \cos(t) \sin(x) \quad (18)$$

The initial conditions are given by

$$u(x, 0) = \sin(x), \\ u_t(x, 0) = 0, 0 \leq x \leq 4$$

The exact solution by [2, 34] is

$$u(x, t) = \cos(t) \sin(x) \quad (19)$$

This problem was solved by HAM in [10]. For q-HAM solution we choose the linear operator:

$$L[\phi(x, t; q)] = \frac{\partial^2 \phi(x, t; q)}{\partial t^2} \quad (20)$$

with the property  $L[c_1 + c_2 t] = 0$ , where  $c_1, c_2$  are constants. Using initial approximation  $u_0(x, t) = \sin(x)$ , we define a nonlinear operator as

$$N[\phi(x, t; q)] = \frac{\partial^2 \phi(x, t; q)}{\partial t^2} + 12 \frac{\partial \phi(x, t; q)}{\partial t} + 4\phi(x, t; q) - \frac{\partial^2 \phi(x, t; q)}{\partial x^2}$$

We construct the zero order deformation equation:

$$(1 - nq)L[\phi(x, t; q) - u_0(x, t)] \\ = qhN[\phi(x, t; q)].$$

we can take  $H(x, t) = 1$ , and the  $m^{\text{th}}$  order deformation equation is :

$$L[u_m(x, t) - k_m u_{m-1}(x, t)] = hR_m(\bar{u}_{m-1}(x, t)) \quad (21)$$

with the initial conditions for  $m \geq 1$

$$u_m(x, 0) = 0 \quad (22)$$

Where  $k_m$  as define by (10) and

$$R_m(\bar{u}_{m-1}(x, t)) = \frac{\partial^2 u_{m-1}(x, t)}{\partial t^2} + 12 \frac{\partial u_{m-1}(x, t)}{\partial t} \\ + 4 u_{m-1}(x, t) - \frac{\partial^2 u_{m-1}(x, t)}{\partial x^2} + \\ \left(1 - \frac{1}{n} k_m\right) (12 \sin(x) \sin(t) - 4 \cos(t) \sin(x))$$

Now the solution of equation (18) for  $m \geq 1$  becomes

$$u_m(x, t) = k_m u_{m-1}(x, t) \\ + h \int_0^t \int_0^s R_m(\bar{u}_{m-1}(x, r)) dr ds + c_1 \\ + c_2 t$$

where the constant of integration  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are determined by the initial conditions (22).

We can obtain components of the solution using q-HAM as follows:

$$u_1(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} h(-8 + 24t + 5t^2 + 8\cos[t] \\ - 24\sin[t])\sin[x]$$

$$u_2(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} hn(-8 + 24t + 5t^2 + 8\cos[t] \\ - 24\sin[t])\sin[x] + \frac{1}{24} h^2(-3072 \\ + t(-2304 + t(1548 + 5t(96 \\ + 5t))) + 3072\cos[t] \\ + 2304\sin[t])\sin[x]$$

$u_m(x, t), (m = 3, 4, 5, \dots)$  can be calculated

similarly. Then the series solution expression by q-HAM can be written in the form:

$$u(x, t; n; h) \cong U_M(x, t; n; h) = \\ \sum_{i=0}^M u_i(x, t; n; h) \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^i \quad (23)$$

Equation (23) is an approximate solution to the problem (18) in terms of the convergence parameters  $h$  and  $n$ . To find the valid region of  $h$ , the  $h$ -curves given by the 15<sup>th</sup> order q-HAM approximation at  $(x = 0.5, t = 1)$  and different values of  $n$  are drawn in figures (9 – 12). These figures show the interval of  $h$  at which the value of  $U_{15}(x, t; n)$  is constant at certain values of  $x, t$  and  $n$ . We choose the horizontal line parallel to  $x$ -axis ( $h$ ) as a valid region which provides us with a simple way to adjust and control the convergence region of the series solution (23). From these figures, the region of  $h$  for the values of  $x, t$  and  $n$  in the curves becomes larger as  $n$  increase. Figure (13) shows the comparison between  $U_{15}$  of HAM and  $U_{15}$  of q-HAM using different values of  $n$  with the exact solution (19), which indicates that the speed of convergence for q-HAM with  $n > 1$  is faster in comparison with  $n = 1$ . Figures (14 – 16) show that the series solutions obtained by q-HAM at  $n > 1$  converge faster than  $n = 1$  (HAM).

#### 4. Conclusion

In this paper, the one-dimensional hyperbolic telegraph equations are solved by employing the q-homotopy analysis method (q-HAM). The convergence of the q-HAM is numerically studied by comparison with the exact solutions of the problems. The results shows that the convergence of the q-homotopy analysis method is more accurate than the convergence of the homotopy analysis method (HAM).

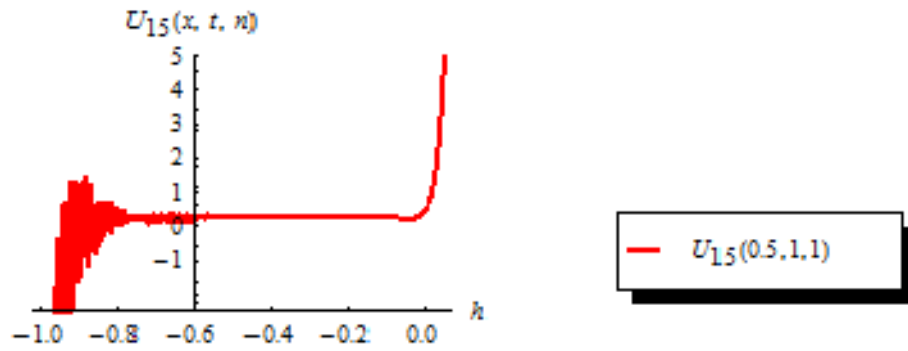


Fig. (9)  $h$  - curve for the HAM (q-HAM;  $n = 1$ ) approximation solution,  $U_{15}(0.5, 1; 1)$  of problem (18).

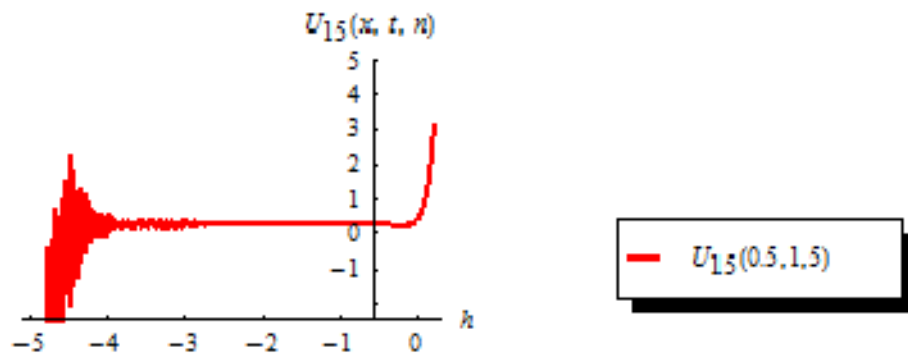


Fig. (10)  $h$  - curve for the (q-HAM;  $n = 5$ ) approximation solution,  $U_{15}(0.5, 1; 5)$  of problem (18).

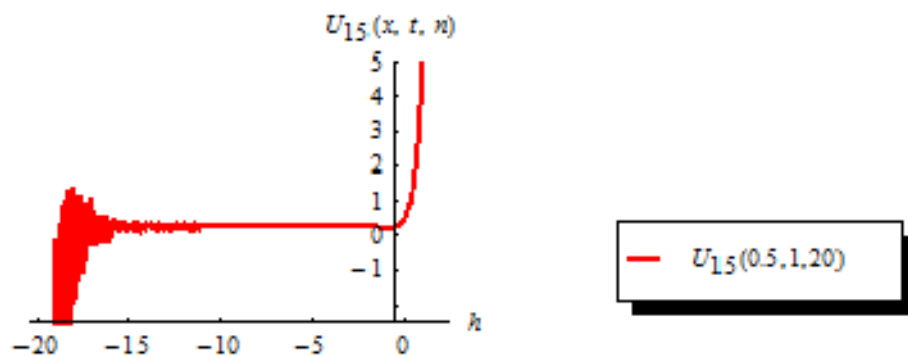


Fig. (11)  $h$  - curve for the (q-HAM;  $n = 20$ ) approximation solution,  $U_{15}(0.5, 1; 5)$  of problem (18).

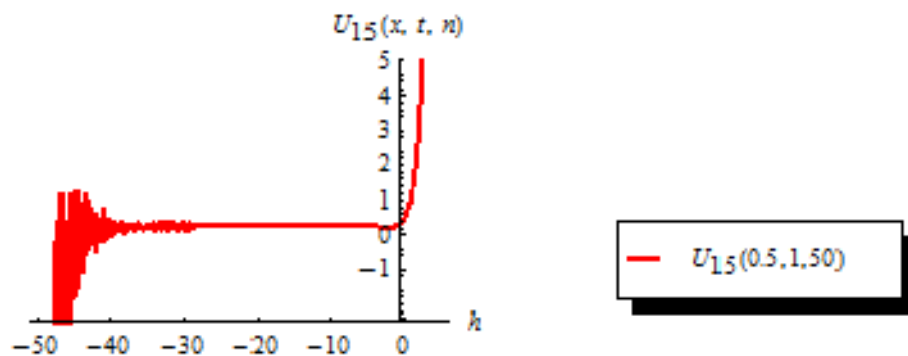


Fig. (12)  $h$  - curve for the (q-HAM;  $n = 50$ ) approximation solution,  $U_{15}(0.5, 1; 5)$  of problem (18).



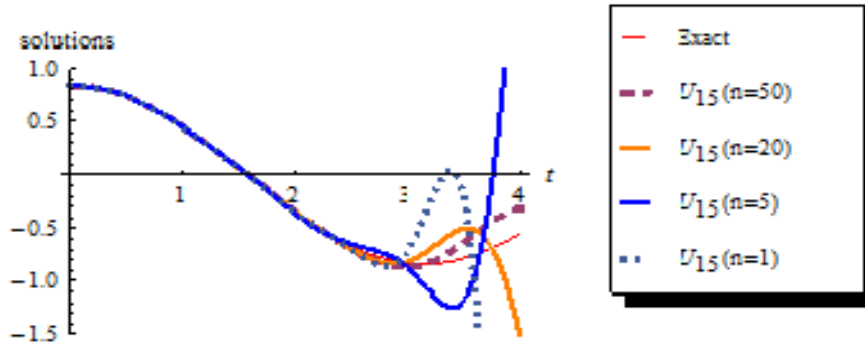


Fig. (13) Comparison between  $U_{15}$  of HAM (q-HAM ( $n = 1$ )) and q-HAM, ( $n = 5, 20, 50$ ) with the exact solution of problem (18) at  $x = 1$  with, ( $h = -0.35, h = -1.5, h = -5, h = -7.5$ ) respectively.

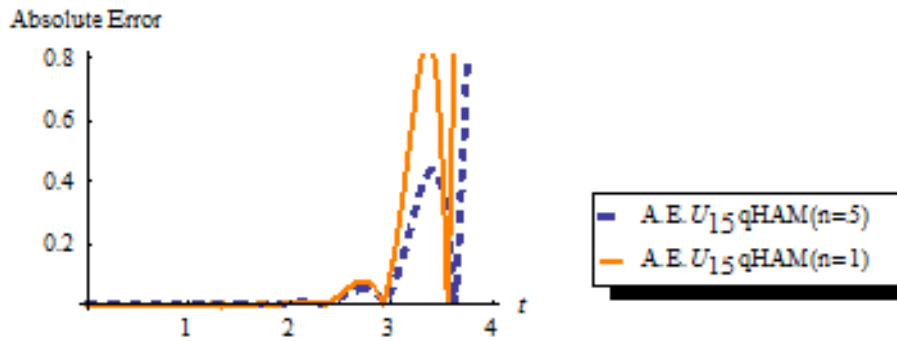


Fig. (14) The absolute errors of  $U_{15}$  of q-HAM ( $n = 1, n = 5$ ) for problem (18), at  $0 \leq t \leq 4$  and  $x = 1$  using  $h = -0.35$  and  $h = -1.5$ .

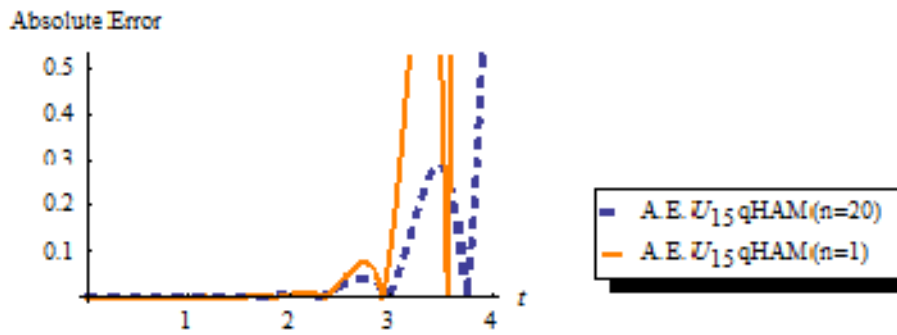


Fig. (15) The absolute errors of  $U_{15}$  of q-HAM ( $n = 1, n = 20$ ) for problem (18), at  $0 \leq t \leq 4$  and  $x = 1$  using  $h = -0.35$  and  $h = -5$ .

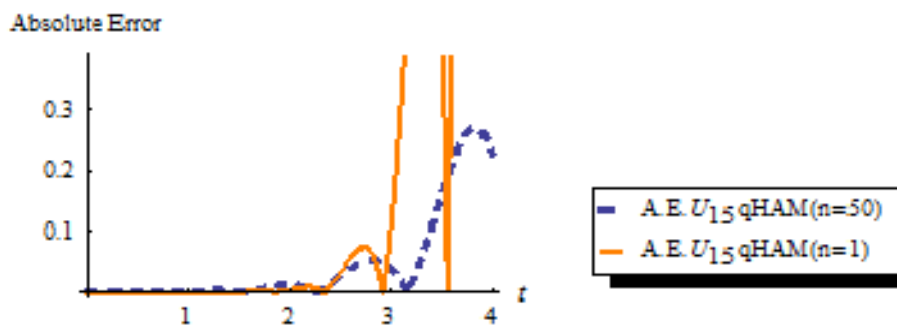


Fig. (16) The absolute errors of  $U_{15}$  of q-HAM ( $n = 1, n = 50$ ) for problem, (18) at  $0 \leq t \leq 4$  and  $x = 1$  using  $h = -0.35$  and  $h = -7.5$ .

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