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Numerical Solution of an Interval-Based Uncertain SIR (Susceptible–Infected–Recovered) Epidemic Model by Homotopy Analysis Method

Emmanuel A. Bakare^{1,†}, Snehashish Chakraverty^{2,†} and Radovan Potucek^{3,*,†} 

¹ Department of Mathematics, Federal University, Oye Ekiti, Ado Ekiti 371 104, Ekiti State, Nigeria; emmanuel.bakare@fuoye.edu.ng

² Department of Mathematics, National Institute of Technology Rourkela, Odisha 769001, India; chakravertys@nitrrkl.ac.in

³ Department of Mathematics and Physics, University of Defence, Kounicova 65, 662 10 Brno, Czech Republic

* Correspondence: radovan.potucek@unob.cz; Tel.: +420-973-44-3056

† These authors contributed equally to this work.

Abstract: This work proposes an interval-based uncertain Susceptible–Infected–Recovered (SIR) epidemic model. The interval model has been numerically solved by the homotopy analysis method (HAM). The SIR epidemic model is proposed and solved under different uncertain intervals by the HAM to obtain the numerical solution of the model. Furthermore, the SIR ODE model was transformed into a stochastic differential equation (SDE) model and the results of the stochastic and deterministic models were compared using numerical simulations. The results obtained were compared with the numerical solution and found to be in good agreement. Finally, various simulations were done to discuss the solution.

Keywords: homotopy analysis method; uncertainty; interval analysis; simulation; stochastic; susceptible; infected; recovered



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1. Introduction

Interval analysis is a method developed by mathematicians in the 1950s as a way of handling bounds or rounding errors and measurement errors in mathematical computation. It is useful in formulating numerical methods that yield desirable results. In short, it defines each value as a range of possibilities. This work aims to formulate interval arithmetic that solves upper and lower endpoints for the range of values of a particular function in one or more variables. These limitations are not necessarily the supremum or infimum since the exact solution of those values can be very intractable or even impossible. The treatments of interval arithmetic for real intervals of quantities with the form $[u, v] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : u \leq x \leq v\}$, where $u = -\infty$ and $v = \infty$, are permitted. The permission is based on the fact that if one of the real intervals is infinite, we would have an unbounded interval, and if both are infinite, we would have the extended real number system. Considering the classical calculation with real numbers, simple arithmetic operations and functions on elementary intervals must initially be defined. It is after this that complicated functions can be evaluated from the basic elements. In interval arithmetic, we state the range of possible outcomes explicitly.

Thus, the results are no longer stated as numbers but as intervals, which denotes imprecise values. With the size of the intervals, we express the extent of uncertainties, which are similar to error bars to a metric. The evaluations of the outer bounds of intervals are enabled by simple arithmetic operations, for example, basic arithmetic and trigonometric. Interval arithmetic was introduced by [1] as an approach to bound rounding errors in mathematical computation. The theory of interval analysis emerged considering the computation of both the exact solution and the error term as a single entity, that is, the

interval. Though a simple idea, it is a very powerful technique with numerous applications in mathematics, computer science, and engineering.

In their survey, they discussed the basic concepts of interval arithmetic and some of its extensions. They also reviewed the successful application of this theory in computer science, in particular. The authors of [2] investigated the solution of linear and nonlinear ordinary differential equations with the fuzzy initial condition. They proposed two Euler-type methods to obtain a numerical solution to the problem. They also compared their solution with existing results. They observed that the results obtained were tighter than the results from the existing method. The authors of [3] also investigated the numerical solution of n -th order fuzzy differential equations in the fuzzy environment using a homotopy perturbation method (HPM). They used triangular fuzzy convex normalized sets for the fuzzy parameter and variables.

They also compared their results obtained with the existing solution in terms of plots to show the efficiency of their method. The authors of [4] gave an overview of applications of interval arithmetic and discussed the verification methods for linear and nonlinear systems of equations. They also then discussed item software in the field and gave some historical remarks. The authors of [5] provided algorithms for computing the operations of interval arithmetic. They generated data that are sufficiently detailed to convert directly to a program to efficiently implement the interval operations. Finally, they extended these results to the case of general intervals, which are defined as connected sets of rules that are not necessarily closed. For this present work, we considered an interval-based uncertain epidemic model.

A related mathematical model was proposed first for SIR transmission dynamics and then the HAM was applied to find the solution. This method employs the concept of the homotopy from topology to generate a convergent series solution of nonlinear systems. The convergent series solution of nonlinear systems was enabled by utilizing a homotopy–MacLaurin series to deal with the nonlinearity in the system. The HAM is much better than most of the existing analytic approximation method because most of the existing methods are valid only for weakly nonlinear problems [6]. It overcomes the restrictions of all other analytic approximation methods and is valid for highly nonlinear problems [6]. The HAM is always valid even if small physical parameters exist or not, it provides an easy way to guarantee the convergence of approximation series, and lastly, it provides sufficient freedom to choose the equation type of sub-problems and the base function of solutions [6]. The strength of the HAM to naturally exhibit convergence of the series solution is strange in most analytic and semi-analytic approaches to nonlinear PDEs [7]. Recently, [8] used the HAM approach to solve the SIS and SIR models of [9]. The authors of [10], extended the work of [8] to solve the SIR epidemic model in the presence of a constant vaccination strategy. The authors of [7] also applied the HAM to solve the SIR epidemic model. They obtained an explicit analytic solution of the coupled nonlinear differential equations describing the epidemic model proposed. They also compared the numerical results, which showed that the two results are in good agreement. The authors of [11] studied a new approach for solving the SIR epidemic model using the HAM that was based on dividing the entire domain into subintervals.

Other works on the homotopy analysis method with the SIR model can be found in [12–20]. The aim of this work was to obtain the numerical solution of an interval-based uncertain SIR epidemic model using the HAM and comparing their stochastic version. The homotopy analysis method (HAM) has been applied here to study the solution of the epidemic model under uncertain intervals. The results obtained by the HAM were compared with the approximate solution and were found to be in strong agreement. We have also developed the stochastic version of the SIR epidemic model presented in this paper in order to measure the effect of randomness of the variables in the model. To the best of our knowledge, no work has been done in the area of an interval-based uncertain SIR epidemic model and very few works have been done on the stochastic model of SIR epidemic models so far. The paper is organized as follows: in Section 2, preliminaries

and basic definitions are presented. In Section 3, the presentation of the proposed model is made. In Section 4, we describe the interval-based uncertain model. In Section 5, we present the homotopy analysis approach to a non-linear system, while in Section 6, we present the solution of the SIR epidemic model by the HAM. In Section 7, we present the solution, numerical results, and a discussion on the interval-based uncertain SIR epidemic model. Section 8 showcases the stochastic version of the model. In Section 9, the graphical illustrations of our results are discussed. In Section 10, the numerical solution of the SDE model are discussed. In Section 11, we present the discussion, conclusion, and possible extensions, and finally, the references are presented.

2. Preliminaries

In this section, we present some notations, definitions, and preliminaries that are used further in this paper.

A. Interval Arithmetic [1]

Interval arithmetic is defined on the sets of intervals, instead of sets of real numbers. Interval arithmetic defines a set of operations on intervals, as follows:

$$Y * W = \{x : \exists u \in Y \wedge \exists v \in W : x = u * v\},$$

where u and v are intervals.

B. Closed Interval [1]

A closed interval, denoted by $[m, n]$, is the set of real numbers given by

$$[m, n] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : m \leq x \leq n\}.$$

C. Endpoint notation, interval equality [1]

Two intervals, A and B , are said to be equal if they are the same sets. Hence, operationally this occurs if their corresponding endpoints are equal; $A = B$ if $\underline{A} = \underline{B}$ and $\overline{A} = \overline{B}$. Here \underline{A} , represents the left endpoint of an interval A while \overline{A} represents the right endpoint of an interval A , such that $A = [\underline{A}, \overline{A}]$.

D. Midpoint of A [1]

The midpoint of A is given by

$$m(A) = \frac{1}{2}(\underline{A} + \overline{A}).$$

E. Interval Arithmetic and Operations [1]

The key point in the definition of arithmetic operations is that computing intervals are computing with sets. Let

$$A = [a : a \in A] \text{ and } B = [b : b \in B]$$

Then, the following properties hold:

- (i) The sum of two intervals, A and B , is the set

$$A + B = \{a + b : a \in A, b \in B\}.$$

- (ii) The difference of two intervals, A and B , is the set

$$A - B = \{a - b : a \in A, b \in B\}.$$

- (iii) The product of A and B is given by

$$A * B = \{a * b : a \in A, b \in B\}.$$

(iv) The quotient of A/B is defined as

$$\frac{A}{B} = \left\{ \frac{a}{b} : a \in A, b \in B, b \neq 0 \right\}.$$

3. Model Formulation

A population comprising three kinds of individuals, denoted by S (susceptible human), I (infected human), and R (recovered human), are considered. The susceptible human ($S(t)$) is the number of susceptible humans at time t , that is, humans who are vulnerable and are yet to contract the disease but have a probability of contracting it. The infected human ($I(t)$) is the population of the infected and infectious persons who have the disease and can transmit it to others, while the recovered human ($R(t)$) is the population of recovered humans who cannot get the disease or transmit it, because they have natural immunity, they have recovered from the disease and are immune to re-infection, they have been placed in isolation, or they have died.

The population of susceptible humans is generated through the reduction of the rate of transmission β with the infected, such that the rate of change of the population of susceptible humans is given by the following:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\beta SI, \beta > 0. \tag{1}$$

The rate of change of the population of infected humans is increased by the rate of transmission β with the susceptible, and reduced by the rate at which the infected population becomes isolate or recovered γ . Hence it is given by

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \beta SI - \gamma I, \beta > 0, \gamma > 0. \tag{2}$$

The population of recovered humans is generated by the rate at which the infected population becomes isolated or recovered. Hence it is given by

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \gamma I, \gamma > 0. \tag{3}$$

Hence, the governing equation by [9] related to the present model is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dS}{dt} &= -\beta SI, \\ \frac{dI}{dt} &= \beta SI - \gamma I, \\ \frac{dR}{dt} &= \gamma I. \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Subject to the initial conditions,

$$S(0) = S_0, I(0) = I_0, R(0) = R_0.$$

4. Interval-Based Uncertain Model

As mentioned in the introduction, if we assumed that the parameters involved in a model are given in terms of an interval then it will become an interval-based model and the solution has to be handled carefully. As such, let us suppose that we have the rate of transmission β and the rate at which the infected population become isolated or recovered γ in terms of intervals $\tilde{\beta} = [\underline{\beta}, \bar{\beta}]$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = [\underline{\gamma}, \bar{\gamma}]$ then the corresponding interval model may be written as

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\tilde{\beta}SI,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dI}{dt} &= -\tilde{\beta}SI - \tilde{\gamma}I, \\ \frac{dR}{dt} &= \tilde{\gamma}I, \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

with the initial conditions

$$S_0 = S(0), I_0 = I(0), R_0 = R(0)$$

where $S, I,$ and R are all now in interval form.

It may be noted from the open literature that the involved parameters, such as β and $\gamma,$ are usually given in term of some ranges, so we have investigated the problem considering those ranges in terms of intervals. Hence, the intervals of β and γ are taken as the following:

- (i) $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03],$
- (ii) $\tilde{\gamma} = [0.005, 0.015].$

Next, the above interval model has been solved by the homotopy analysis method (HAM). We provide, in the next section, some mathematical results.

5. Mathematical Results

We assume here that all parameters in Equation (5) are positive intervals. For the SIR model (5) to be meaningful biologically, we need to prove that all its stated variables are non-negative (except S) for all time, that is, the solutions of the Equation (5) with non-negative initial data will remain non-negative for all time $t > 0.$

Proposition 1. If the initial values $S \geq 0, I \geq 0, R \geq 0,$ then the solutions $(S(t), I(t), R(t))$ of the model (5) are non-negative for all $t \geq 0.$

Proof. Let $\Omega_p = \{t > 0; S(t) > 0, I(t) > 0, R(t) > 0\},$ We say that, from the equations of Equation (5) that

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\tilde{\beta}SI,$$

where $\tilde{\beta} = [\underline{\beta}, \bar{\beta}]$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = [\underline{\gamma}, \bar{\gamma}].$ Therefore,

$$\frac{d}{dt} S(t) \exp\left[\left(\tilde{\beta}I\right)t\right] = 0.$$

Hence, $S(t_1) \exp\left[\left(\tilde{\beta}I\right)t\right] - S(0) = 0,$ so $S(t_1) = -S_0 \exp\left[\left(\tilde{\beta}I\right)t_1\right] < 0.$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} I(t) \exp\left[\left(-\tilde{\beta}S + \tilde{\gamma}\right)t\right] &= 0, \\ I(t) \exp\left[\left(-\tilde{\beta}S + \tilde{\gamma}\right)t\right] - I(0) &= 0, \\ I(t_1) &= I(0) \exp\left[-\left(-\tilde{\beta}S + \tilde{\gamma}\right)t_1\right]. \end{aligned}$$

Such that

$$I(t_1) = I(0) \exp\left[\left(\tilde{\beta}S - \tilde{\gamma}\right)t_1\right] > 0.$$

Similarly,

$$R(t_1) = R(0)(\tilde{\gamma}I)t_1 > 0.$$

Hence, the solutions $(S(t), I(t), R(t))$ of the Equation (5) are non-negative (except S) for all $t > 0. \square$

Proposition 2. Suppose Equation (5) has a unique interval-based positive solution (S, I, R) defined on a horizon of infinite time.

Proof. We established that Equation (5) can be rewritten in the following form:

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = f_1(S, I, R)S, \frac{dI}{dt} = f_2(S, I, R)I,$$

where $S + I + R = 1$, so $R = 1 - S - I$.

The functions f_1 and f_2 are C^∞ . Thus, according to the Cauchy–Lipschitz theorem [21], Equation (5) has a unique positive solution (S, I) on the infinite time horizon, whenever $S_0 > 0, I_0 > 0$. \square

Corollary 1. The compact domain $\Omega_1 = \{(S, I, R) \in \Omega : 0 \leq S + I + R \leq 1\}$ is positively invariant and attracts all trajectories from Ω .

Proposition 3. The domain Ω is positively invariant through the positive semi-wave produced by Equation (5).

Proof. Equation (5) can be rewritten as follows:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} S \\ I \\ R \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f_1(S, I, R) \\ f_2(S, I, R) \\ f_3(S, I, R) \end{pmatrix} = F(S, I, R).$$

Applying the assumption that

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(S = 0, I, R) &= 0 \text{ for } (I, R) \geq 0, \\ f_1(S = c, I, R) &= -\tilde{\beta}cI \leq 0 \text{ for } (I, R) \geq 0, \\ f_2(S, I = 0, R) &= 0 \text{ for } (S, R) \geq 0, \\ f_3(S, I, R = 0) &= \tilde{\gamma}I \geq 0 \text{ for } (S, I) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the field remains on the domain Ω .

In contrast, we show that by setting $S(t)$ and $I(t)$ as continuous intervals, such that $S(0) = S_0 > 0$ and $I(0) = I_0 > 0$, if $I(\tilde{t}) < 0$, then by the intermediate value theorem, there exists $\tau_1 \in [0, \tilde{t}]$, such that $I(\tau_1) = 0$. By applying the second equation of Equation (5), we obtain $I(t) = I(\tau_1)e^g = 0$ for $t \geq t_0$, where g is the base of $-\tilde{\beta}I(t) - \tilde{\gamma}I$. Therefore, $I(t) = 0$ for $t \geq \tau_1$ which is a contradiction. We apply the same arguments to $S(t)$. We show this according to Proposition 4. \square

Proposition 4 ([22]). Suppose $S(t), I(t), R(t)$ is a solution of Equation (5), then $S(t) \geq 0, I(t) \geq 0$ and $R(t) \geq 0$ for all $t > 0$.

If we add the first two equations of Equation (5) together, we obtain

$$\frac{d}{dt}[S(t) + I(t)] = -\tilde{\gamma}I \leq 0.$$

Now, by applying Proposition 4 and $S(0) + I(0) = N$, we have $S(t) + I(t) \leq N$. From Proposition 4, we also have $N - S(t) - I(t) = R(t)$. Hence, we conclude that $R(t) \geq 0$. From Proposition 4, we have $S(t) + I(t) \leq 0$, which implies that $N - S(t) - I(t) \leq N$. Therefore, $R(t) = N - S(t) - I(t) \leq N$ because

$$\frac{dI}{dt} \div \frac{dS}{dt} = \frac{dI}{dS} = \left(\frac{\tilde{\gamma}I}{\tilde{\beta}SI} - 1 \right) dS,$$

then

$$\int_0^t dI = \int_0^t \left(\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{\tilde{\beta}} S - 1 \right) dS, I(t) - I_0 = \frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{\tilde{\beta}} \log_e S_0 - S(t) - S_0.$$

Therefore,

$$I(S(t)) = I_0 + S_0 + \frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{\tilde{\beta}} \log_e \left(\frac{S(t)}{S_0} \right).$$

The quantity $\frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{\tilde{\beta}} S - 1$ is positive if $S < \frac{\tilde{\gamma}}{\tilde{\beta}}$. From Equation (5), it is clear that $I(0) = -\infty$ and $I(S_0) = I(0) > 0$.

Hence, there exists a point S_∞ , uniquely, $0 < S_\infty < S_0$ such that $I(S_\infty) = 0$ and $I(S) > 0$ for $S_\infty < S \leq S_0$. The point $(S_\infty, 0)$ is called the equilibrium point of the first two Equations of (5) since both dS/dt and dI/dt vanish at $t = 0$. We show this according to Proposition 5.

Proposition 5 ([22]). If $(S(t), I(t), R(t))$ is a solution of the interval base uncertain model Equation (5) then $S(t) + I(t) \geq N$, and $0 \leq R(t) \leq N$ for all $t > 0$.

By dividing $\frac{dS}{dt}$ by $\frac{dR}{dt}$, which yields

$$\frac{dS}{dR} = \frac{-\tilde{\beta}SI}{\tilde{\gamma}I} = \frac{-\tilde{\beta}S}{\tilde{\gamma}}.$$

therefore, $\int_0^t \frac{dS}{S} = \int_0^t \left(-\frac{\tilde{\beta}}{\tilde{\gamma}} \right) dR$. By the initial condition, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \log_e \left(\frac{S(t)}{S_0} \right) &= \log_e S(t) - \log_e S(0) = -\frac{\tilde{\beta}}{\tilde{\gamma}} \int_0^t dR, \\ \log_e \left(\frac{S(t)}{S_0} \right) &= -\frac{\tilde{\beta}}{\tilde{\gamma}} [R(t) - R(0)], \\ \log_e \left(\frac{S(t)}{S_0} \right) &= -\frac{\tilde{\beta}}{\tilde{\gamma}} R(t) + \frac{\tilde{\beta}}{\tilde{\gamma}} R_0. \end{aligned}$$

So that $\frac{S(t)}{S_0} = e^{-\frac{\tilde{\beta}}{\tilde{\gamma}} R(t)} \cdot e^{\frac{\tilde{\beta}}{\tilde{\gamma}} R_0}$, and

$$S(t) = S_0 e^{-\frac{\tilde{\beta}}{\tilde{\gamma}} [R(t) - R(0)]}.$$

From Proposition 5, $0 < R(t) \leq N$ and we have that $S_0 e^{-\frac{\tilde{\beta}N}{\tilde{\gamma}}} \leq S_0 e^{-\frac{\tilde{\beta}}{\tilde{\gamma}} [R(t) - R(0)]} \leq S_0$. Because $S_0 > 0$, we conclude that $0 < S(t) \leq S_0$ for all $t \geq 0$. We show this according to Lemma 1.

Lemma 1 ([22]). Suppose $(S(t), I(t), R(t))$ be a solution of Equation (5) in the domain $\Gamma_2 = \{(S, I) : S \geq 0, I \geq 0, S + I \leq N\}$ then $0 < S(t) \leq S_0$ and $S(t) = S_0 e^{\frac{\tilde{\beta}(R(t) - R(0))}{\tilde{\gamma}}} \geq S_0 e^{-\frac{\tilde{\beta}N}{\tilde{\gamma}}}$ for all $t \geq 0$.

Recall that from the first equation of Equation (5) and Proposition 5, we have $\frac{dS}{dt} = -\tilde{\beta}SI \leq 0$ and we say $S(t)$ is a decreasing function, then $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} S(t) = S_\infty$, such that S_∞ is a finite number. Recall also from Equation (5), the third equation $\frac{dR}{dt} = \tilde{\gamma}I \geq 0$ and we say $R(t)$ is an increasing function. Hence, by Proposition 5, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} R(t) = R_\infty$, then R_∞ is a finite number. We show this according to Lemma 2.

Lemma 2 ([22]). If $(S(t), I(t), R(t))$ is a solution of Equation (5), then $S(t) \rightarrow S_\infty$ as $R(t) \rightarrow R_\infty$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$, such that S_∞ and R_∞ are finite numbers.

Recall from Proposition 5 and from Lemma 2, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} R(t) = R_\infty$. So that $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^t I(m)dm = \frac{R_\infty}{\tilde{\gamma}}$. Therefore, $\int \frac{dR}{dt} = \int \tilde{\gamma} I dt = R(t) = \tilde{\gamma} \int_0^t I(m)dm$ implies that $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{R(t)}{\tilde{\gamma}} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^t I(m)dm$. Then, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^t I(m)dm$ converges. Therefore, $\sum_{v=0}^\infty I(v)$ is convergent and $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} I(t) = 0$.

Alternately, we integrate the first equation of Equation (5):

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{dS}{dt} dt = -\tilde{\beta} \int_0^\infty S(t)I(t)dt.$$

Because $S_\infty - S_0 = -\tilde{\beta} \int_0^\infty S(t)I(t)dt$ and $S_0 - S_\infty = \tilde{\beta} \int_0^\infty S(t)I(t)dt$, then

$$S_0 - S_\infty \geq \tilde{\beta} \int_0^\infty S(t)I(t)dt,$$

which implies that $I(t)$ is integrable in the interval $[0, \infty)$, and hence, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} I(t) = 0$. We show this according to Lemma 3.

Lemma 3 ([20]). If $(S(t), I(t), R(t))$ is a solution of Equation (5) then $I(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

We hereby present below the procedure for the HAM for the benefit of finding the numerical solution of our interval-based uncertain model. Consider a nonlinear equation of the form

$$A[v(t)] = 0, \tag{6}$$

where A is a linear operator, t denotes the time, and $v(t)$ is an unknown function. Let $v_0(t)$ denote an initial approximation of $v(t)$ and Z denote an auxiliary linear operator [21]. We construct the zero-order deformation equation

$$(1 - q)Z[\varphi(t; q) - \vartheta_0(t)] = qh_1H(t)A(t; p), \tag{7}$$

where $q \in [0, 1]$ is the embedding parameter and $h \neq 0$ is a non-zero auxiliary function. When $q = 0$ and $q = 1$, the zero-order deformation equation becomes, respectively,

$$\varphi(t; 0) = \vartheta_0(t) \tag{8}$$

and

$$\varphi(t; 1) = \vartheta_0(t). \tag{9}$$

Thus, as q increases from 0 to 1, the solution $\varphi(t; q)$ varies continuously from the initial approximation $\vartheta_0(t)$ of the exact solution $\vartheta(t)$. Such a kind of continuous variation is called deformation in topology. Expanding $\varphi(t; p)$ by the Taylor series in the power series of q , we have

$$\varphi(t; q) = \vartheta_0(t) + \sum_{m=1}^\infty \vartheta_m q^m, \tag{10}$$

where

$$\vartheta_m(t) = \frac{1}{m!} \frac{\partial^m \varphi(t; q)}{\partial q^m} \tag{11}$$

is the deformation derivative. If the auxiliary linear operator A , the initial approximation $v_0(t)$, the auxiliary parameter h_I and the auxiliary function $H(t)$ are properly chosen so that

- (i) the solution $\varphi(t; q)$ of the zero-order deformation Equation (6) exists for all $q \in [0, 1]$,
- (ii) the deformation derivative (11) exists for all $m = 1, 2, \dots$,
- (iii) the series (10) converge at $q = 1$,

then, we have the series solution:

$$\varphi(t; 1) = \vartheta_0(t) + \sum_{m=1}^\infty \vartheta_m(t). \tag{12}$$

Define the vector as

$$\vec{\vartheta}_m(t) = \{\vartheta_0(t), \vartheta_1(t), \dots, \vartheta_m(t)\}. \tag{13}$$

According to the definition (10), the governing equation can be derived from the zero-order deformation Equation (6). Differentiating (6) m -times with respect to the embedding parameter q , then by setting $q = 0$, and finally, dividing by m , we have the m -th order deformation equation

$$Z[b_m(t) - \lambda_m \vartheta_{m-1}(t)] = hH(t)P_m\left(\vec{\vartheta}_{m-1}(t)\right), \tag{14}$$

where

$$P_m\left(\vec{\vartheta}_{m-1}(t)\right) = \frac{1}{(m-1)!} \frac{\partial^{m-1} A[\varphi(t; q)]}{\partial q^{m-1}}, \tag{15}$$

$$\lambda_m = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } m \leq 1, \\ 1 & \text{if } m > 1. \end{cases} \tag{16}$$

Note that according to definition (16), the right-hand side of (15) depends only on $\vec{\vartheta}_{m-1}(t)$. Thus, we easily gain the series $\vartheta_1(t), \vartheta_2(t), \dots$ by solving the linear higher-order deformation Equation (15) using the well-known symbolic computation software such as Maple, Matlab, or Mathematica. Prediction and controlling the infection was studied in detail not only in [22] but also in other papers, for example [4,23–36]. We discuss in the next section the homotopy analysis method.

6. Homotopy Analysis Method

For this section, we solved the interval-based uncertain model (5) by considering intervals of the transmission as $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03]$ and the interval of recovery as $\tilde{\gamma} = [0.005, 0.015]$, respectively. To solve the interval-based uncertain model Equation (5) by the HAM, we consider the first equation in the interval-based uncertain model Equation (5) and choose the linear operator

$$A[S(t; q)] = \frac{dS(t; q)}{dt} \tag{17}$$

with the property that

$$A[\alpha_1] = 0, \tag{18}$$

where α_1 is a constant of integration. The inverse operator A^{-1} is given by

$$A^{-1}(\cdot) = \int_0^t (\cdot) dt. \tag{19}$$

Let the nonlinear operator be defined as

$$\tilde{A}[S(t; q)] = \frac{dS(t; q)}{dt} - \beta S(t; q)I(t; q). \tag{20}$$

The proper selection of the auxiliary parameter and function during the implementation of the HAM method can yield uniformly valid and accurate solutions [19].

By constructing the zero-order deformation equation we have the following:

$$(1 - q)A[S(t; q) - S_0(t; q)] = qh_1H(t)A[S(t; p)], \tag{21}$$

where

- (i) if $q = 0$ then $S(t; 0) = S_0(t)$,
- (ii) if $q = 1$ then $S(t; 1) = S(t)$.

Therefore, we have the m -th order deformation equation

$$A[S_{h,m}(t) - \lambda S_{m-1}(t)] = h_1 H(t) P\left(\vec{S}_{m-1}(t)\right), \quad m \geq 1, \tag{22}$$

where

$$P_m\left(\vec{S}_{m-1}(t)\right) = \frac{d^{m-1} S_{m-1}(t)}{dt} - \tilde{\beta} SI. \tag{23}$$

The solution of the m -th order deformation Equation (22) for $m > 1$ and using $h_1 = -1$ and $H(t) = 1$ is given by

$$S_m(t) = \lambda_m S_{m-1}(t) - \int_{\infty}^t \left[\frac{d^{m-1} S_{m-1}(t)}{dt} + \beta \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} S_k(t) I_{m-1-k}(t) \right] dt, \quad m \geq 1. \tag{24}$$

Following earlier steps, we obtain

$$I_m(t) = \lambda_m I_{m-1}(t) - \int_{\infty}^t \left[\frac{d^{m-1} I_{m-1}(t)}{dt} - \beta \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} S_k(t) I_{m-1-k}(t) + \gamma I_{m-1}(t) \right] dt \tag{25}$$

and

$$R_m(t) = \lambda_m R_{m-1}(t) - \int_{\infty}^t \left[\frac{d^{m-1} R_{m-1}(t)}{dt} - \gamma I_{m-1}(t) \right] dt, \tag{26}$$

where $m \geq 1$ in both last equations.

7. Numerical Results and Discussion

In this section, we present the results of the homotopy analysis method for solving an interval-based uncertain model. The solutions of the interval-based uncertain model with interval $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03]$ and constant value $\gamma = 0.01$ in Table A1, and with interval $\tilde{\gamma} = [0.01, 0.015]$ and constant value $\beta = 0.01$ in Table A2. Tables A3 and A4 present the minimum, maximum, and midpoints of the susceptible, infected, and recovered human population with intervals of β and γ . The results of the HAM show strong agreement with the approximation technique. In Table A3, we present the result obtained by the Runge–Kutta of fourth order method for the susceptible, infected, and recovered humans. Then, we observed that the results are in good agreement with the homotopy analysis method (HAM) in Table A4.

In Table A1, we present the result of the susceptible, infected, and recovered humans, where β is considered an interval and γ is given as a constant. In Table A2, β is considered a constant and γ is given as an interval. It is observed from Table A1 that as time increases, the lower bound (minimum) and the upper bound (maximum) are decreasing for the susceptible human population. It is also detected that the lower bound (minimum) and the upper bound (maximum) of both the infected and recovered human populations increase with time.

In Table A2, it is observed that the same situation seems to be occurring in both the lower bound (minimum) and the upper bound (maximum) for the susceptible humans. It is also noticed that the lower bound (minimum) and the upper bound (maximum) of both the infected and recovered human populations increase with time.

It is seen from Tables A3 and A4 that the lower bound (minimum) and the upper bound of the susceptible population is decreasing with time, as seen from Tables A1 and A2. At the same time, the lower bound (minimum) and the upper bound (maximum) of both the infected and recovered human populations increase with time. In Tables A3 and A4, the interval $[\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01]$ denotes the center for the intervals $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03]$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = [0.01, 0.015]$, while in Tables A1 and A2, the interval $[\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01]$ represents the center for β and constant value γ . In the next section we discuss the stochastic version of the model.

8. Stochastic Version of the Model

In this part, we denote the complete probability space with a filtration $\{\mathfrak{F}_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ with $(\Omega, \mathfrak{F}, Q)$ and it satisfies the condition that it is increasing and continuous while \mathfrak{F}_0 have every Q -empty sets. We introduce randomness into Equation (5) and assume that the white noise depends on the size of the corresponding populations where we applied the corresponding pattern $f_i(S(t), I(t), R(t))dW(t)$, such that f_i represents the intensity of the random perturbation $i \in [1, 3]$ and $W(t)_{t \geq 0}$ is a single dimensional Brownian motion that is defined on a complete probability space $(\Omega, \mathfrak{F}, \{\mathfrak{F}_t\}_{t \geq 0}, Q)$. Then, the stochastic model of the SIR system (5) is described by the stochastic differential equations (SDEs):

$$\begin{aligned} dS &= (-\tilde{\beta}SI)dt + f_1S(t)dW(t), \\ dI &= (\tilde{\beta}SI - \tilde{\gamma}I)dt + f_2I(t)dW(t), \\ dR &= \tilde{\gamma}Idt + f_3R(t)dW(t). \end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

Let $X(t) = (S(t), I(t), R(t))$. Then, we can rewrite Equation (5) in the pattern of a single dimensional SDE of the form

$$dX(t) = F(X(t), t)dt + G(X(t), t)dW(t)$$

such that $F : \mathbb{R}_+^2 \times \mathbb{R}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+^2$, which is given by

$$F = \begin{pmatrix} -\tilde{\beta}SI \\ \tilde{\beta}SI - \tilde{\gamma}I \\ \tilde{\gamma}I \end{pmatrix} \tag{28}$$

and the function $G : \mathbb{R}_+^2 \times \mathbb{R}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+^2$ is given by

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} f_1S(t) \\ f_2I(t) \\ f_3R(t) \end{pmatrix}. \tag{29}$$

In the next section, we discuss the graphical illustration of our results.

9. Graphical Illustration of Our Results

Figure 1 shows the plot of the maximum, midpoint, and the minimum of the susceptible human intervals $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03]$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = [0.01, 0.015]$. It reveals that as the maximum value is decreasing, the midpoint is also decreasing, as is the minimum point. It is clearly seen from the plot that the uncertainty lies between the upper and lower bounds. Figure 2 shows the plot of the maximum, midpoint, and the minimum of the infected human intervals $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03]$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = [0.01, 0.015]$. It reveals that as the maximum value is increasing, the midpoint is also increasing, as is the minimum point. It is clearly seen from the plot that the uncertainty lies between the upper and lower bounds. Figure 3 shows the plot of the maximum, midpoint, and the minimum of the recovered human intervals $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03]$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = [0.01, 0.015]$. It reveals that as the maximum value is increasing, the midpoint is also increasing, as is the minimum point. It is clearly seen from the plot that the uncertainty lies between the upper and lower bounds. We discuss in Section 10 the numerical solutions of the stochastic differential equation model.

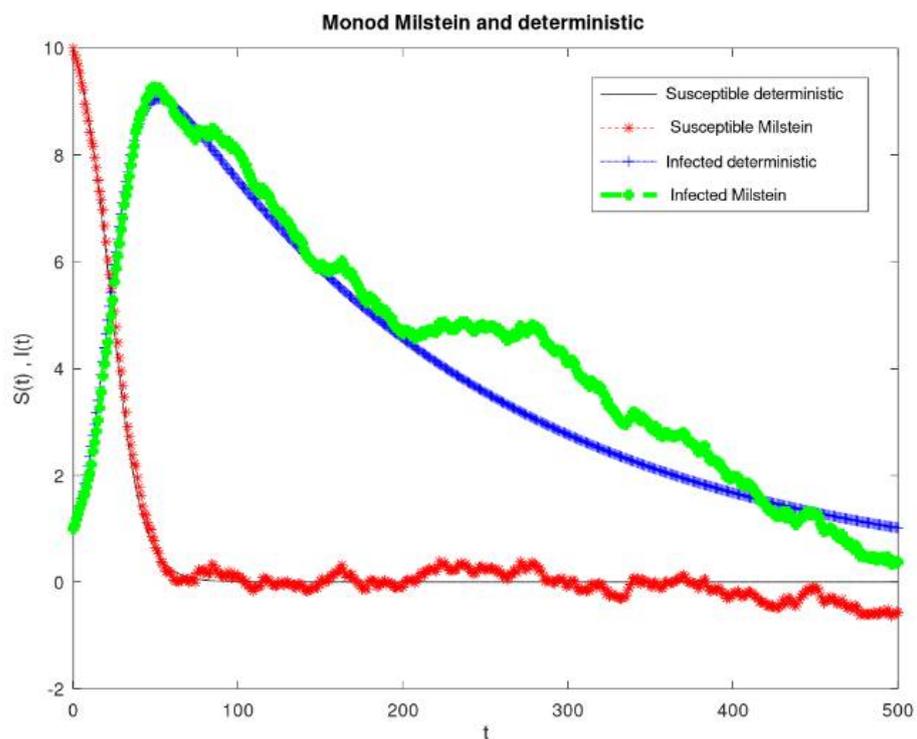


Figure 1. Plot of the dynamic behaviors of the susceptible and infected populations under the intervals $\tilde{\beta} = 0.01$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = 0.01$.

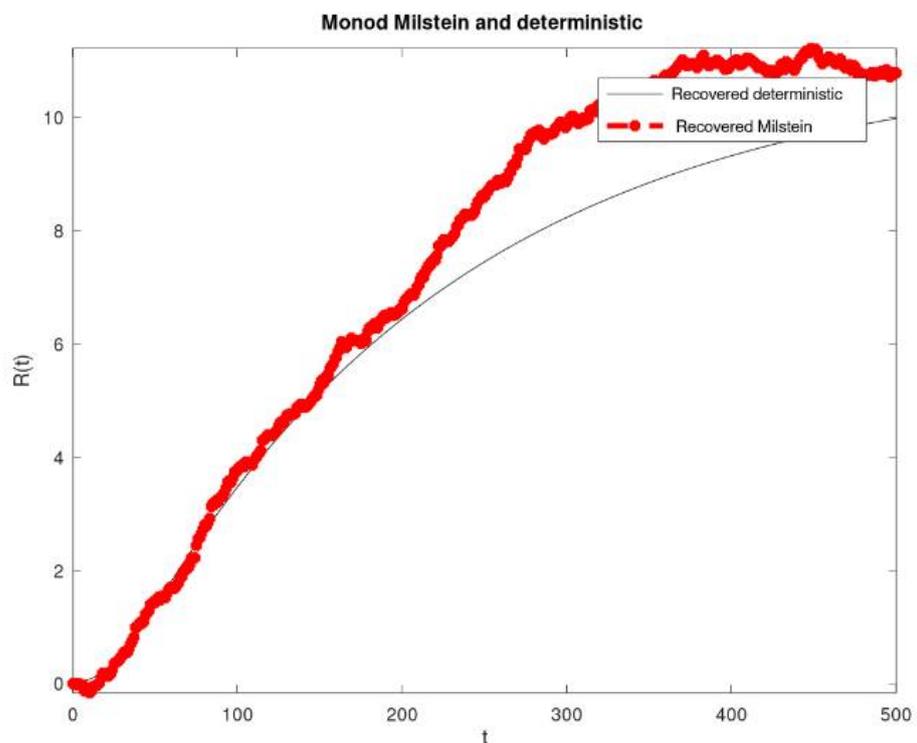


Figure 2. Plot of the dynamic behaviors of the susceptible and infected populations under the intervals $\tilde{\beta} = 0.01$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = 0.01$.

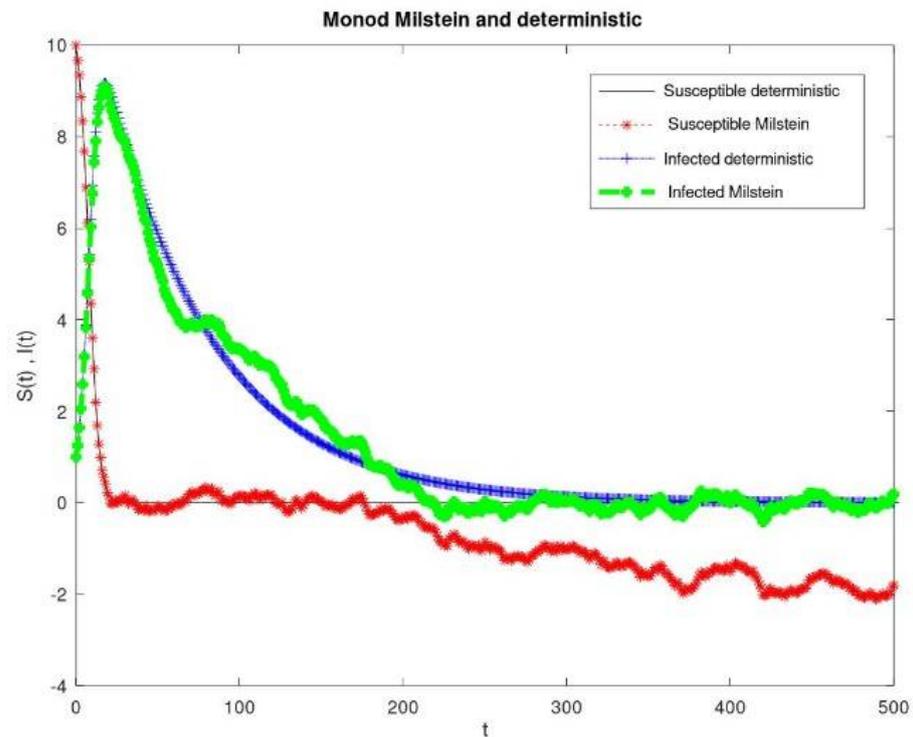


Figure 3. Plot of the dynamic behaviors of the susceptible and infected populations under the intervals $\tilde{\beta} = 0.03$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = 0.015$.

10. Numerical Solution of the SDE Model

In this section, we present the simulation of the SDE model (27) with the use of the Milstein method given the parameter value intervals $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03]$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = [0.01, 0.015]$. We obtained our numerical results of the SDE model for 500 runs of the stochastic model simulation and the results of the corresponding deterministic model are presented in Figures 1–4, in which we display the time series solution of all the variables in the SDE model. It was obtained that in the Figures 1–4, the SDE model simulations are lower than their deterministic model simulation.

Figure 1 shows the simulations of the dynamic behaviors of the susceptible and the infected populations under the intervals $\tilde{\beta} = 0.01$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = 0.005$. It was observed that the stochastic simulations of the susceptible and the infected populations were lower than their deterministic simulations. Figure 2 shows the simulations of the dynamic behaviors of the recovered population under the intervals $\tilde{\beta} = 0.01$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = 0.005$. It was observed that the stochastic simulations of the recovered population were higher than their deterministic simulations. Figure 3 shows the simulations of the dynamic behaviors of the susceptible and the infected populations under the intervals $\tilde{\beta} = 0.03$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = 0.015$. It was observed that the stochastic simulations of the susceptible and the infected populations were lower than their deterministic simulations. Figure 4 shows the simulations of the dynamic behaviors of the recovered populations under the intervals $\tilde{\beta} = 0.03$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = 0.015$. It was observed that the stochastic simulations of the recovered population were lower than their deterministic simulations.

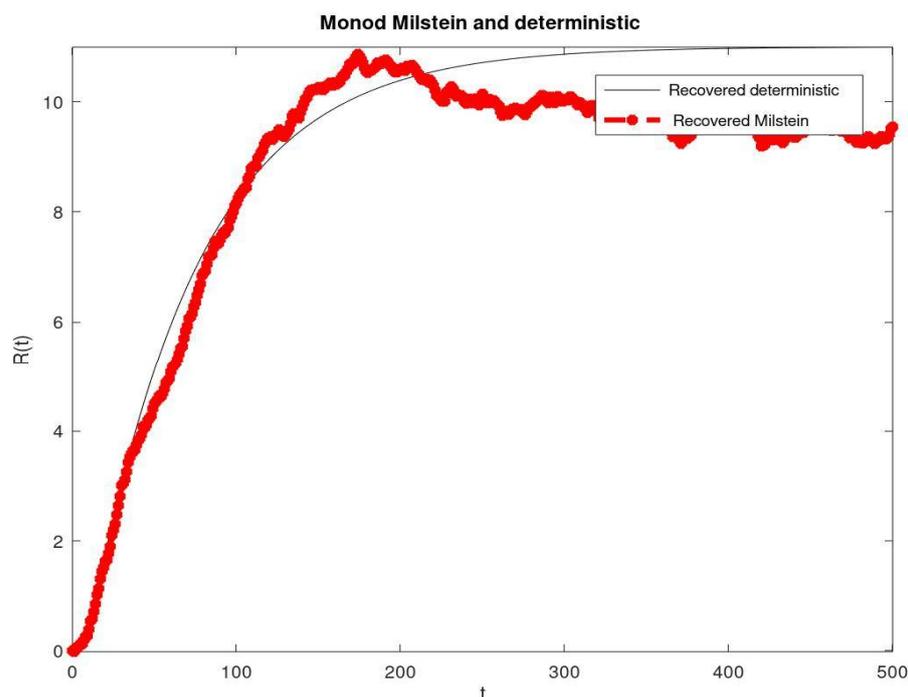


Figure 4. Plot of the dynamic behaviors of the susceptible and infected populations under the intervals $\tilde{\beta} = 0.03$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = 0.015$.

11. Discussion and Conclusions

In this work, we have studied the interval-based uncertain model of a three-compartment mathematical model rigorously. The homotopy analysis approach has been employed to solve the system of nonlinear equations of SIR interval uncertainty, in particular. The results obtained were compared with the known solution and are found to be in good agreement. Hence, it was established here that the homotopy analysis method has greater advantages over other analytical methods in many different ways. The HAM is a series expansion method that is directly dependent on small or large physical parameters, and hence, it is applicable for not only weakly but also strongly nonlinear problems. It also allows for the strong convergence of the solution over larger spatial and parameter domains. It also gives excellent flexibility in the expression of the solution and how the solution is explicitly obtained. It provides a simple way to ensure the convergence of the solution series. Comparing the stochastic and deterministic versions of the model, we saw that the population of the susceptible, infected, and recovered populations fell between the intervals obtained in the interval-based model. These suggest that the interval-based model give a very good range for the general SIR epidemic model. In the future, we plan to use fuzzy differential equations to capture the dynamics, and we also plan to look into a more practical problem that may be grounded with epidemiological data.

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Appendix A

The solutions obtained by the homotopy analysis method and the Runge–Kutta of the fourth order method for various intervals $\tilde{\beta} = [\underline{\beta}, \bar{\beta}]$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = [\underline{\gamma}, \bar{\gamma}]$ and for various constant values of β and γ are stated in Tables A1–A4. Further, Figures A1–A3 are plotted with the maximum, center, and minimum of susceptible, infected and recovered humans under the intervals $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03]$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = [0.01, 0.015]$.

Table A1. The solutions obtained by the homotopy analysis method with the interval $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03]$ and the constant value of $\gamma = 0.01$.

Time (t)	S			I			R		
	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]
0.1	[19.095, 19.700]	19.396	19.397	[15.270, 15.875]	15.573	15.587	[10.015, 10.015]	10.015	10.015
0.2	[18.183, 19.398]	18.791	18.791	[15.542, 16.757]	16.150	16.178	[10.031, 10.032]	10.032	10.031
0.3	[17.268, 19.097]	18.183	18.182	[15.813, 17.642]	16.728	16.770	[10.046, 10.049]	10.048	10.048
0.4	[16.357, 18.794]	17.576	17.572	[16.086, 18.524]	17.305	17.363	[10.062, 10.067]	10.065	10.065
0.5	[15.452, 18.492]	16.972	16.962	[16.358, 19.398]	17.878	17.955	[10.078, 10.086]	10.082	10.082
0.6	[14.560, 18.190]	16.375	16.354	[16.631, 20.260]	18.446	18.545	[10.095, 10.106]	10.101	10.101
0.7	[13.684, 17.887]	15.786	15.749	[16.903, 21.107]	19.418	19.131	[10.112, 10.127]	10.120	10.119
0.8	[12.828, 17.585]	15.207	15.149	[17.176, 21.932]	19.554	19.712	[10.129, 10.148]	10.139	10.139
0.9	[11.997, 17.283]	14.640	14.555	[17.447, 22.734]	20.091	20.286	[10.146, 10.170]	10.158	10.159
1.0	[11.193, 16.982]	14.088	13.969	[17.719, 23.508]	20.614	20.852	[10.164, 10.193]	10.179	10.179

Table A2. The solutions obtained by the homotopy analysis method with the interval $\tilde{\gamma} = [0.01, 0.015]$ and the constant value of $\beta = 0.01$.

Time (t)	S			I			R		
	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]
0.1	[19.699, 19.700]	19.700	19.700	[15.255, 15.286]	15.270	15.270	[10.015, 10.015]	10.015	10.015
0.2	[19.398, 19.399]	19.399	19.398	[15.511, 15.572]	15.542	15.542	[10.031, 10.032]	10.032	10.031
0.3	[19.095, 19.098]	19.097	19.097	[15.767, 15.860]	15.814	15.813	[10.046, 10.049]	10.048	10.048
0.4	[18.792, 18.797]	18.795	18.794	[16.023, 16.148]	16.086	16.086	[10.062, 10.067]	10.065	10.065

Table A2. *Cont.*

Time (<i>t</i>)	S			I			R		
	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]
0.5	[18.489, 18.496]	18.493	18.492	[16.280, 16.437]	16.359	16.358	[10.078, 10.086]	10.082	10.082
0.6	[18.184, 18.195]	18.190	18.190	[16.536, 16.726]	16.631	16.631	[10.095, 10.106]	10.101	10.101
0.7	[17.880, 17.894]	17.887	17.887	[16.792, 17.015]	16.904	16.903	[10.112, 10.127]	10.120	10.119
0.8	[17.576, 17.594]	17.585	17.585	[17.047, 17.304]	17.176	17.176	[10.129, 10.148]	10.139	10.139
0.9	[17.272, 17.294]	17.283	17.283	[17.302, 17.593]	17.448	17.447	[10.146, 10.170]	10.158	10.159
1.0	[16.968, 16.995]	16.982	16.982	[17.556, 17.881]	17.719	17.719	[10.164, 10.193]	10.179	10.179

Table A3. The solutions obtained by the Runge–Kutta of the fourth order method with intervals $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03]$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = [0.01, 0.015]$.

Time (<i>t</i>)	S			I			R		
	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]
0.1	[19.095, 19.699]	19.397	19.397	[15.278, 15.898]	15.588	15.587	[10.008, 10.023]	10.015	10.015
0.2	[18.180, 19.398]	18.789	18.791	[15.556, 16.804]	16.179	16.178	[10.015, 10.048]	10.031	10.031
0.3	[17.263, 19.095]	18.179	18.182	[15.835, 17.713]	16.774	16.770	[10.023, 10.073]	10.048	10.048
0.4	[16.347, 18.793]	17.570	17.572	[16.113, 18.619]	17.366	17.363	[10.031, 10.101]	10.066	10.065
0.5	[15.438, 18.490]	16.964	16.962	[16.392, 19.519]	17.956	17.956	[10.039, 10.129]	10.084	10.082
0.6	[14.541, 18.187]	16.364	16.354	[16.670, 20.406]	18.538	18.545	[10.048, 10.159]	10.103	10.101
0.7	[13.659, 17.884]	15.772	15.749	[16.948, 21.277]	19.113	19.131	[10.056, 10.189]	10.123	10.119
0.8	[12.822, 17.581]	15.202	15.149	[17.225, 22.127]	19.676	19.712	[10.065, 10.222]	10.143	10.139
0.9	[11.962, 17.279]	14.620	14.555	[17.502, 22.953]	20.227	20.286	[10.073, 10.256]	10.165	10.159
1.0	[11.152, 16.976]	14.064	13.969	[17.778, 23.750]	20.764	20.852	[10.083, 10.291]	10.186	10.179

Table A4. The solutions obtained by the homotopy analysis method with intervals $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03]$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = [0.01, 0.015]$.

Time (<i>t</i>)	S			I			R		
	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	[$\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01$]
0.1	[19.094, 19.699]	19.397	19.399	[15.255, 15.891]	15.573	15.572	[10.008, 10.023]	10.015	10.015
0.2	[18.181, 19.399]	18.790	18.792	[15.511, 16.789]	16.149	16.148	[10.015, 10.048]	10.031	10.031
0.3	[17.265, 19.098]	18.181	18.184	[15.767, 17.690]	16.729	16.726	[10.023, 10.073]	10.048	10.048

Table A4. Cont.

Time (t)	S			I			R		
	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	$[\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01]$	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	$[\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01]$	[min, max]	Midpoint of [min, max]	$[\beta = 0.02, \gamma = 0.01]$
0.4	[16.350, 18.797]	17.574	17.576	[16.024, 18.589]	17.307	17.304	[10.031, 10.100]	10.066	10.065
0.5	[15.443, 18.496]	16.969	16.968	[16.279, 19.482]	17.881	17.882	[10.039, 10.129]	10.084	10.082
0.6	[14.547, 18.195]	16.371	16.363	[16.536, 20.363]	18.500	18.457	[10.048, 10.158]	10.103	10.100
0.7	[13.667, 17.894]	15.780	15.761	[16.792, 21.228]	19.010	19.029	[10.056, 10.189]	10.123	10.119
0.8	[12.807, 17.594]	15.201	15.164	[17.047, 22.073]	19.560	19.597	[10.065, 10.221]	10.143	10.138
0.9	[11.972, 17.294]	14.633	14.573	[17.302, 22.893]	20.098	20.158	[10.073, 10.255]	10.164	10.164
1.0	[11.164, 16.968]	14.066	13.989	[17.556, 23.686]	20.621	20.712	[10.082, 10.289]	10.186	10.179

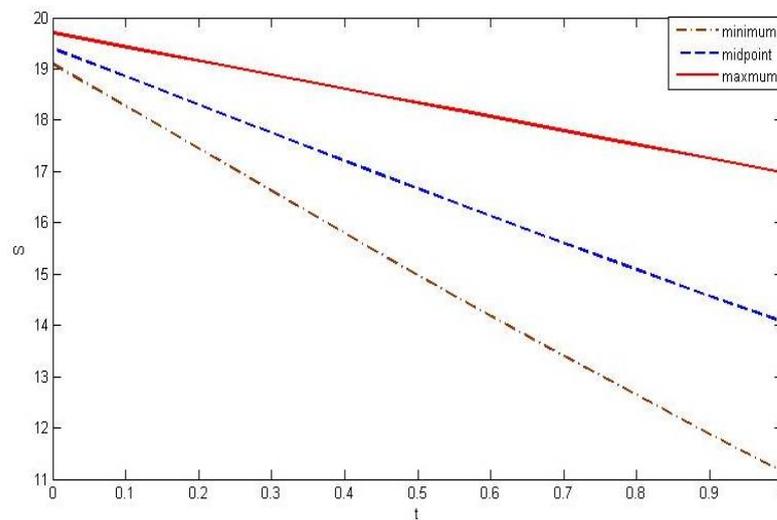


Figure A1. Plot of the maximum, center, and minimum of susceptible humana under the intervals $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03]$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = [0.01, 0.015]$.

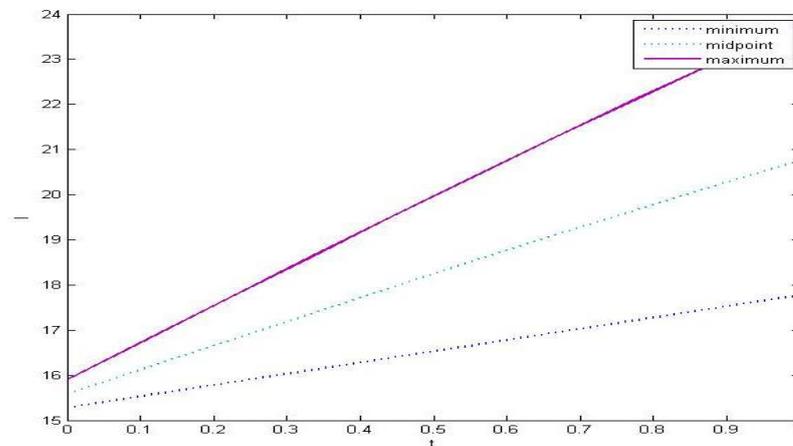


Figure A2. Plot of the maximum, center, and minimum of infected humans under the intervals $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03]$ and $\tilde{\gamma} = [0.01, 0.015]$.

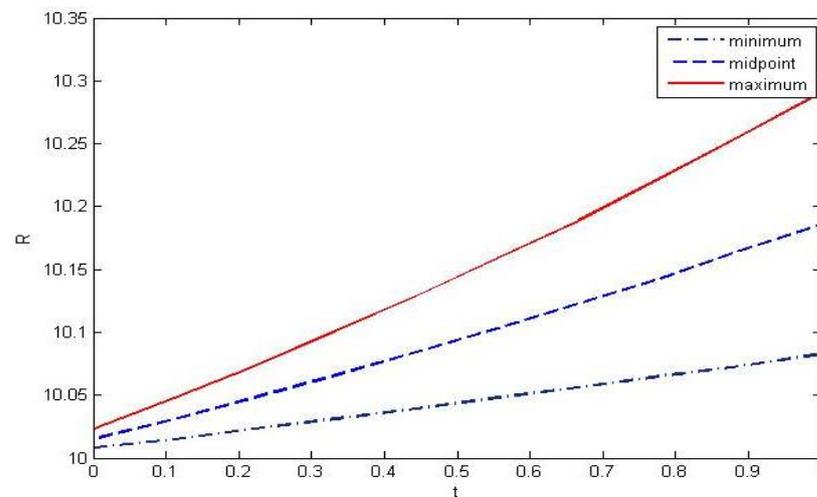


Figure A3. Plot of the maximum, center, and minimum of recovered humans under the intervals $\tilde{\beta} = [0.01, 0.03]$ and $\tilde{\gamma} [0.01, 0.015]$.

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