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In [3]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np
import math

# Radioactive decay of Thorium Isotope-234
# Here we will solve the differential equation
#  $dQ/dt = -rQ$ ,  $r = 0.02828$  days-1,  $q(0) = 100$  mg.  $t$  is in days
# Example is taken from the book: Elementary Differential Equations and
# Boundary Value Problems. By William E. Boyce and Richard D. Prima. page 44.
# The exact solution can be found to be:  $Q(t) = 100 \cdot \exp(-rt)$ 
# The Euler method is implemented to find the numerical solution
# of the differential equation.
# The objective is to study the effect of the timestep but also use
# the simulation to determine the half life
# of the isotope (halveringstiden)

dt = 5 # days
tstart = 0
tend = 50 # days
r = 0.02828 # days-1

T = []
Qexact = []
Qeuler = []

# Save the initial condition  $y(0) = 1$  in the arrays

t = tstart
qexact = 100 # mg
qeuler = 100 # mg

T.append(t)
Qexact.append(qexact)
Qeuler.append(qeuler)

while (t < tend):
    dt = min(dt, tend - t)
    qeuler = qeuler + dt * (-r * qeuler)
    t = t + dt
    qexact = 100 * math.exp(-r * t)

    T.append(t)
    Qexact.append(qexact)
    Qeuler.append(qeuler)

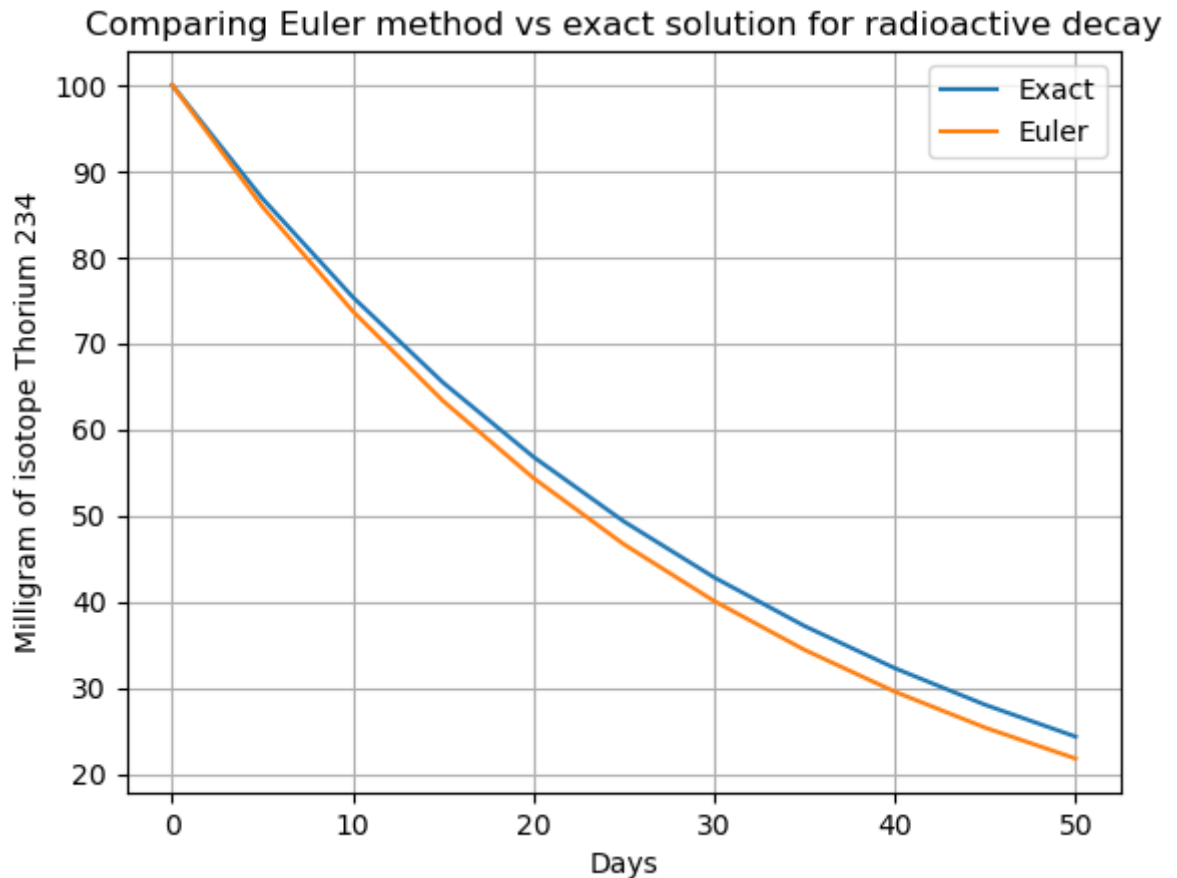
plt.plot(T, Qexact, T, Qeuler)
plt.title('Comparing Euler method vs exact solution for radioactive decay')
plt.grid(True)
plt.xlabel('Days')
plt.ylabel('Milligram of isotope Thorium 234')
plt.legend(['Exact', 'Euler'])
plt.show()

print('Start with dt = 5 days (step size) and then reduce the timestep until'
      ' you think that the numerical solution has converged to the exact solution')

print('-----')

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print('From the graphs, try to estimate the half life of the Thorium Isotope.'  
      'Then try to find the exact '  
      'half life time using the expression for the exact solution')
```



Start with  $dt = 5$  days (step size) and then reduce the timestep until you think that the numerical solution has converged to the exact solution

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From the graphs, try to estimate the half life of the Thorium Isotope. Then try to find the exact half life time using the expression for the exact solution

In [ ]:

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