

5.3 - Higher-Order Taylor Method

Consider solving the initial-value problem for ordinary differential equation:

$$(*) \quad y'(t) = f(t, y), \quad a \leq t \leq b, \quad y(a) = \alpha.$$

Let $y(t)$ be the unique solution of the initial-value problem. In Section 5.2, Euler's Method, a numerical method, is introduced to compute a set $\{y_k\}_{k=0}^N$ where $y_k \approx y(t_k)$ and $a = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_{N-1} < t_N = b$. Recall that Euler's Method is derived using a Taylor polynomial of degree 1. Will a numerical approximation be better if a Taylor polynomial of degree 2 or degree 3 is used? In this section, we derive a numerical method using Taylor Method of order n where $n = 1, 2, \dots$.

Assume that the initial-value problem is well-posed. Let $h = \frac{b-a}{N}$, where N is a positive integer.

Define $t_k = t_{k-1} + h$ or $t_k = a + kh$.

1. Taylor Method of order n (n-th Order of Taylor Method):

We first express the solution $y(t_{i+1})$ to the initial-value problem $(*)$ by its n th Taylor polynomial and corresponding remainder centered at t_i :

$$\begin{aligned} y(t_{i+1}) &= y(t_i) + y'(t_i)h + \frac{y''(t_i)}{2!}h^2 + \dots + \frac{y^{(n)}(t_i)}{n!}h^n + \frac{y^{(n+1)}(t_i^*)}{(n+1)!}h^{n+1}, \quad \text{where } t_i \leq t_i^* \leq t_{i+1} \\ &= y(t_i) + f(t_i, y(t_i))h + \frac{f'(t_i, y(t_i))}{2!}h^2 + \dots + \frac{f^{(n-1)}(t_i, y(t_i))}{n!}h^n + \frac{f^{(n)}(t_i^*, y(t_i^*))}{(n+1)!}h^{n+1} \\ &= y(t_i) + h \left(\underbrace{f(t_i, y(t_i)) + \frac{f'(t_i, y(t_i))}{2!}h + \dots + \frac{f^{(n-1)}(t_i, y(t_i))}{n!}h^{n-1}}_{T_n(t_i, y(t_i))} + \underbrace{\frac{f^{(n)}(t_i^*, y(t_i^*))}{(n+1)!}h^n}_{R_n(t_i)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Define

$$T_n(t, y(t)) = f(t, y(t)) + \frac{f'(t, y(t))}{2!}h + \dots + \frac{f^{(n-1)}(t, y(t))}{n!}h^{n-1}$$

Taylor Method of order n (nth order of Taylor Method):

$$\begin{aligned} y_0 &= \alpha \\ y_{i+1} &= y_i + hT_n(t_i, y_i), \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1, \end{aligned}$$

Notes:

- $T_1(t, y(t)) = f(t, y(t))$. So, Euler's Method is the Taylor Method of order 1.
- $T_n(t, y(t)) = T_{n-1}(t, y(t)) + \frac{f^{(n-1)}(t, y(t))}{n!}h^{n-1}$. If h is small, for large n , $T_n(t, y(t)) \approx T_{n-1}(t, y(t))$, that means $T_n(t, y(t))$ will not improve much the approximation.

Example Use Taylor Method of order 2, 3 and 4 to approximate the solution of the initial-value problem.

$$y'(t) = y - t^2 + 1, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2, \quad y(0) = 0.5.$$

$$T_2(t_i, y_i) = f(t_i, y_i) + \frac{f'(t_i, y_i)}{2!}h$$

$$T_3(t_i, y_i) = T_2(t_i, y_i) + \frac{f''(t_i, y_i)}{3!}h^2$$

$$T_4(t, y(t)) = T_3(t_i, y_i) + \frac{f'''(t_i, y_i)}{4!}h^3$$

$$f(t, y(t)) = y - t^2 + 1,$$

$$f'(t, y(t)) = y' - 2t = y - t^2 + 1 - 2t = y - t^2 - 2t + 1$$

$$f''(t, y(t)) = y' - 2t - 2 = y - t^2 + 1 - 2t - 2 = y - t^2 - 2t - 1$$

$$f'''(t, y(t)) = y' - 2t - 2 = y - t^2 + 1 - 2t - 2 = y - t^2 - 2t - 1$$

Taylor Method of order 2:

$$y_0 = 0.5$$

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + h\left(y_i - t_i^2 + 1 + \frac{h}{2}(y_i - t_i^2 - 2t_i + 1)\right)$$

Taylor Method of order 3:

$$y_0 = 0.5$$

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + h\left(y_i - t_i^2 + 1 + \frac{h}{2}(y_i - t_i^2 - 2t_i + 1) + \frac{h^2}{6}(y_i - t_i^2 - 2t_i - 1)\right)$$

Taylor Method of order 4:

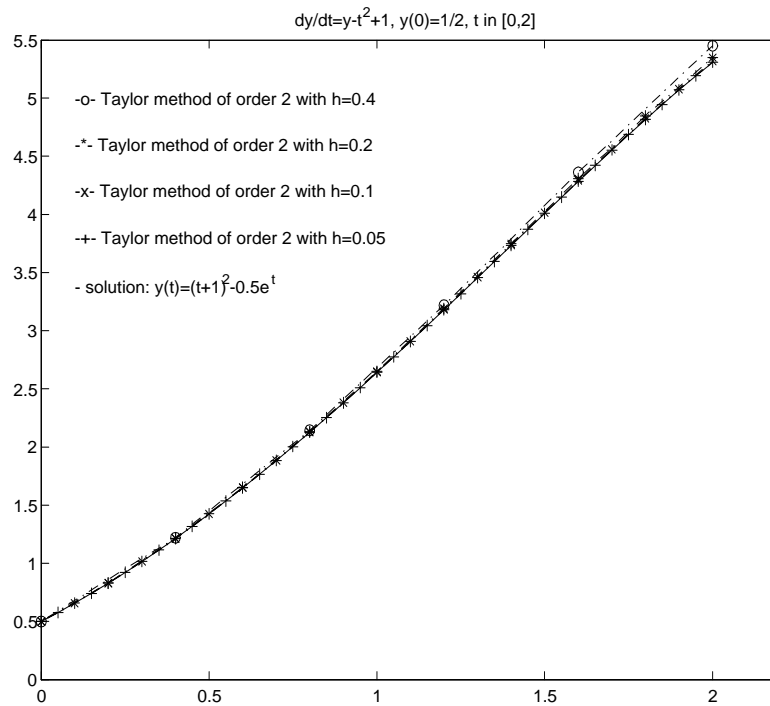
$$y_0 = 0.5$$

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + h\left(y_i - t_i^2 + 1 + \frac{h}{2}(y_i - t_i^2 - 2t_i + 1) + \frac{h^2}{6}(y_i - t_i^2 - 2t_i - 1) + \frac{h^3}{24}(y_i - t_i^2 - 2t_i - 1)\right)$$

Taylor Method of order 2: $h = 0.4$, $h = 0.2$, $h = 0.1$, and $h = 0.05$.

In MatLab:

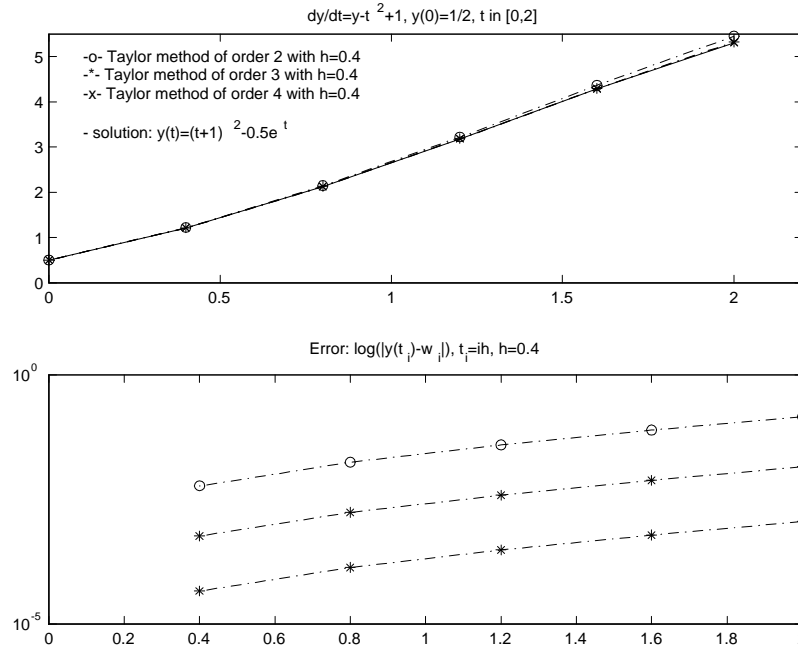
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>>fun=@(t,y) y-t.^2+1;
>>fun1=@(t,y) y-t.^2-2*t+1;
>>[tv yv,n]=tayfun2(fun,fun1,0,2,0.5,0.4);
>>plot(tv,yv,'k-o')
>>hold on
>>[tv yv,n]=tayfun2(fun,fun1,0,2,0.5,0.2);
>>plot(tv,yv,'r-*')
>>[tv yv,n]=tayfun2(fun,fun1,0,2,0.5,0.1);
>>plot(tv,yv,'b-x')
>>[tv yv,n]=tayfun2(fun,fun1,0,2,0.5,0.05);
>>plot(tv,yv,'g-+')
>>title('dy/dt=y-t^2+1, y(0)=1/2, t in [0,2]')
>>hold off
```



Let $h = 0.4$, comparing Taylor Method of order of 2, 3, and 4.

In MatLab:

```
>> fun = @(t,y) y - t.^2 + 1;
>> fun1 = @(t,y) y - t.^2 - 2*t + 1;
>> fun2 = @(t,y) y - t.^2 - 2*t - 1;
(Note that fun3 = fun2)
>> [tv yv, n] = tayfun2(fun, fun1, 0, 2, 0.5, 0.4);
>> plot(tv, yv, 'k-o')
>> hold on
>> [tv yv, n] = tayfun3(fun, fun1, fun2, 0, 2, 0.5, 0.4);
>> plot(tv, yv, 'r-*')
>> [tv yv, n] = tayfun4(fun, fun1, fun2, fun2, 0, 2, 0.5, 0.4);
>> plot(tv, yv, 'b-x')
>> title('dy/dt = y - t^2 + 1, y(0) = 1/2, t in [0, 2]')
>> hold off
```



2. Local Truncation Error:

Definition (local truncation error) Consider *the difference method*:

$$y_0 = \alpha$$

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + h \phi(t_i, y_i), \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1,$$

The local truncation error of this difference method is defined as:

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{i+1}(h) &= \frac{y(t_{i+1}) - (y(t_i) + h \phi(t_i, y(t_i)))}{h} \\ &= \frac{y(t_{i+1}) - y(t_i)}{h} - \phi(t_i, y(t_i)), \quad \text{for } i = 0, 1, \dots, N-1. \end{aligned}$$

Note that $\tau_{i+1}(h)$ is a function of h for $i = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$.

When $\phi(t_i, y(t_i)) = T_n(t_i, y(t_i))$, the local truncation error can be derived as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{i+1}(h) &= \frac{y(t_{i+1}) - y(t_i)}{h} - \phi(t_i, y(t_i)), \quad \text{for } i = 0, 1, \dots, N-1. \\ &= \frac{1}{h} \left(y(t_i) + y'(t_i)h + \frac{y''(t_i)}{2!}h^2 + \dots + \frac{y^{(n)}(t_i)}{n!}h^n + \frac{y^{(n+1)}(t_i^*)}{(n+1)!}h^{n+1} - y(t_i) \right) - T_n(t_i, y(t_i)) \\ &= \frac{y^{(n+1)}(t_i^*)}{(n+1)!}h^n, \quad \text{where } t_i < t_i^* < t_{i+1}. \end{aligned}$$

If $|y^{(n+1)}(t)| \leq M$ for t in $[a, b]$, then

$$|\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq \frac{Mh^n}{(n+1)!} \quad \text{for all } i = 0, 1, \dots, N.$$

Example Find the local truncation error of Euler's Method.

Euler's Method: $n = 1$.

$$|\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq \frac{Mh}{2} \text{ for all } i = 0, 1, \dots, N.$$

If $|y''(t)| \leq M$ for all t in $[a, b]$, then

$$|\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq \frac{1}{2}Mh = O(h).$$

Example Consider the initial-value problem.

$$y'(t) = y - t^2 + 1, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2, \quad y(0) = 0.5.$$

Suppose we know that $y(t) = (t+1)^2 - 0.5e^t$.

(1) For Euler Method:

(i) Find an upper bound (as small as possible) of the true error $|y(t_{i+1}) - y_{i+1}|$ for $i = 0, 1, \dots$ in term of h .

(ii) Find an upper bound (as small as possible) of the truncation error $|\tau_{i+1}(h)|$ for $i = 0, 1, \dots$ in term of h .

(iii) Compare above error bounds when $h = 0.1$.

(iv) Find h such that $|y(t_{i+1}) - y_{i+1}| \leq 0.01$.

(v) Find h such that $|\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq 0.01$.

(2) For Taylor Method of Order 2, 3 and 4:

(i) Find an upper bound (as small as possible) of the truncation error $|\tau_{i+1}(h)|$ for $i = 0, 1, \dots$ in terms of h .

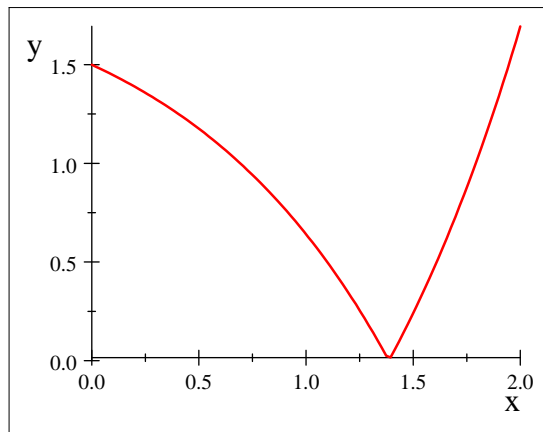
(ii) Compare above error bounds when $h = 0.1$.

(iii) Find h such that $|\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq 0.0001$ for each method.

$$y(t) = (t+1)^2 - 0.5e^t, \quad y'(t) = 2(t+1) - 0.5e^t, \quad y''(t) = 2 - 0.5e^t, \quad y'''(t) = -0.5e^t$$

$$|y''(t)| = |2 - 0.5e^t| \leq 2 + \frac{1}{2}e^2 = 5.69452805 = M, \quad L = 1$$

Or from the graph of $|y''(t)| = |2 - 0.5e^t|$,



we have $M = |y''(2)| = |2 - 0.5e^2| = 1.69452805$. Let $M = 1.7$.

(1) For Euler Method:

(i)

$$|y_{i+1} - y(t_{i+1})| \leq \frac{Mh}{2L}(e^{L(t_{i+1}-a)} - 1) \leq \frac{(1.7)h}{2(1)}(e^{(1)(2-0)} - 1) = 0.85(e^2 - 1)h$$

(ii)

$$|\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq \frac{Mh}{2} = \frac{(1.7)h}{2} = 0.85h$$

(iii) For $h = 0.1$,

$$|y_{i+1} - y(t_{i+1})| \leq 0.85(e^2 - 1)(0.1) = 0.543069768 \text{ and}$$

$$|\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq 0.85(0.1) = 0.085$$

$|\tau_{i+1}(h)|$ is smaller than $|y_{i+1} - y(t_{i+1})|$.

(iv) $|y(t_{i+1}) - y_{i+1}| \leq 0.85(e^2 - 1)h \leq 0.01$, $h \leq \frac{0.01}{0.85(e^2 - 1)} = 1.84138403 \times 10^{-3}$, let $h = 0.0018$.

(v) $|\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq 0.85h \leq 0.01$, $h \leq \frac{0.01}{0.85} = 1.17647059 \times 10^{-2}$, let $h = 0.01176$.

(2) For Taylor Method of order 2, 3, and 4,

$$(i) n = 2, |\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq \frac{Mh^2}{3!} = \frac{(1.7)h^2}{6}$$

$$n = 3, |\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq \frac{Mh^3}{4!} = \frac{(1.7)h^3}{24}$$

$$n = 4, |\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq \frac{Mh^4}{5!} = \frac{(1.7)h^4}{120}$$

(ii) Let $h = 0.1$.

$$n = 2, |\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq \frac{(1.7)(0.1)^2}{6} = 2.8333333 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$n = 3, |\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq \frac{(1.7)(0.1)^3}{24} = 7.0833333 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$n = 4, |\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq \frac{(1.7)(0.1)^4}{120} = 1.4166667 \times 10^{-6}$$

$|\tau_{i+1}(h)|$ is getting smaller as n is getting larger.

(iii) $n = 2, |\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq \frac{(1.7)h^2}{6} \leq 0.0001$, $h \leq \sqrt{\frac{0.0001(6)}{1.7}} = 1.87867287 \times 10^{-2}$, let $h = 0.018$

$$n = 3, |\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq \frac{(1.7)h^3}{24} \leq 0.0001, h \leq \sqrt[3]{\frac{0.0001(24)}{1.7}} = 0.112181379, \text{ let } h = 0.1.$$

$$n = 4, |\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq \frac{(1.7)h^4}{120} \leq 0.0001, h \leq \sqrt[4]{\frac{0.0001(120)}{1.7}} = 0.289856525, \text{ let } h = 0.28.$$

Exercises:

1. For each of the initial-value problems,

(1) identify the function $f(t, y)$;

(2) compute $\frac{df(t, y(t))}{dt}$;

(3) apply the second order Taylor Method with $N = 2$ without using MatLab program tayfun2.m; and

(4) apply the second order Taylor Method with $h = 0.2$ using MatLab program tayfun2.m.

a. $y' = \frac{e^t}{y}$, $0 \leq t \leq 1$, $y(0) = 1$

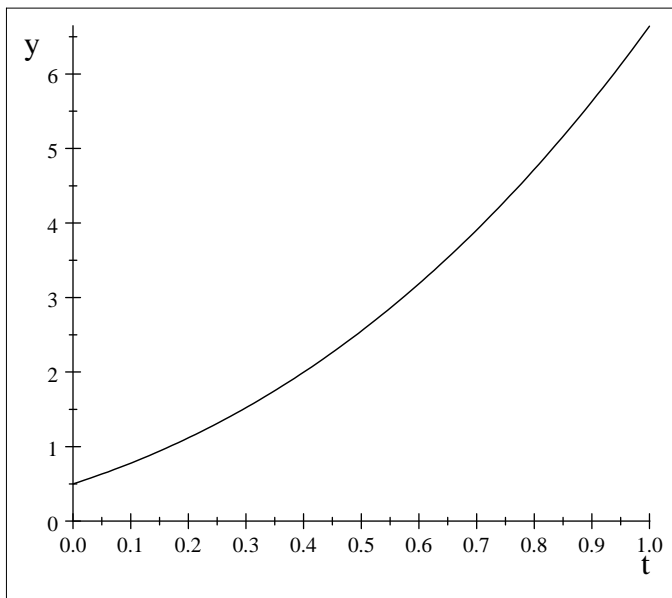
b. $y' + ty = ty^2$, $0 \leq t \leq 2$, $y(0) = 0.5$

- c. $y' = te^{t+y} - 1$, $0 \leq t \leq 2$, $y(0) = -1$
d. $y' = e^{2t} + (1 + \frac{5}{2}e^t)y + y^2$, $0 \leq t \leq 1$, $y(0) = -1$

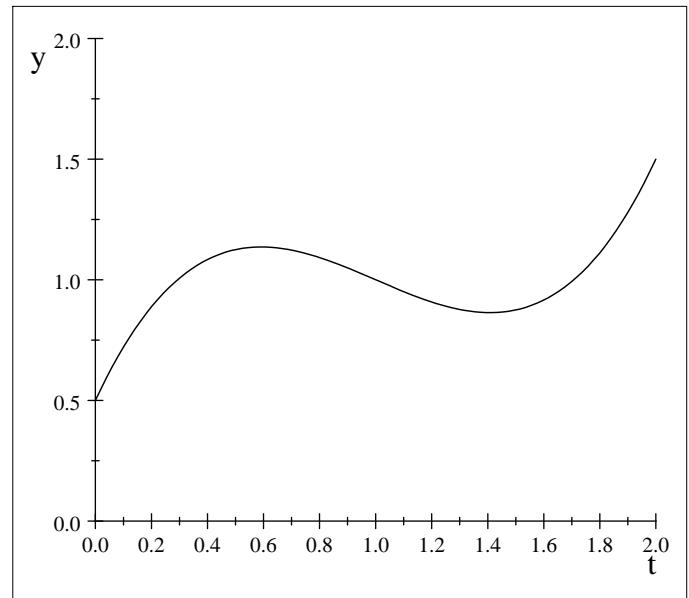
2. For each of the initial-value problems,

- (1) identify the function $f(t, y)$;
(2) compute $\frac{df(t, y(t))}{dt}$, $\frac{d^2f(t, y(t))}{dt^2}$ and $\frac{d^3f(t, y(t))}{dt^3}$;
(3) apply the Taylor Method of order 4 with $N = 2$ without using MatLab program tayfun4.m; and
(4) apply the Taylor Method of order 4 with $h = 0.1$ using MatLab program tayfun4.m.
a. $y' + 2y^2 = t^2 - 1$, $0 \leq t \leq 1$, $y(0) = 0$
b. $y' = \sin(t) - y$, $\pi \leq t \leq 2\pi$, $y(\pi) = 1$
c. $y' + \frac{4y}{t} = t^4$, $1 \leq t \leq 2$, $y(1) = 1$
d. $y' = y - t$, $0 \leq t \leq 1$, $y(0) = 2$

3. Let $y(t)$ be the solution of the initial-value problem: $y' = f(t, y)$, $a \leq t \leq b$, $y(a) = \alpha$. The graph of $y(t)$ is given below. For each problem, estimate graphically y_1 and y_2 obtained by Euler's Method with $h = 0.25$ and $h = 0.5$, respectively. Explain graphically how y_1 and y_2 are derived.



(a) $y(t)$



(b) $y(t)$

4. Consider using the 2nd order Taylor Method. For each of the following initial-value problems,

- (1) find an upper bound (as small as possible) of the truncation error $|\tau_{i+1}(h)|$ (use the true solution $y(t)$ to find M) and $|\tau_{i+1}(h)|$ with given h ; and
(2) find h such that $|\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq 0.01$.

- a. $y' = \frac{e^t}{y}$, $0 \leq t \leq 1$, $y(0) = 1$, $y(t) = \sqrt{2e^t - 1}$, $h = 0.1$
b. $y' + ty = ty^2$, $0 \leq t \leq 2$, $y(0) = 0.5$, $y(t) = (1 + e^{t^2/2})^{-1}$, $h = 0.2$
c. $y' = te^{t+y} - 1$, $0 \leq t \leq 2$, $y(0) = -1$, $y(t) = -t - \ln(e - t^2/2)$, $h = 0.2$
d. $y' = \sin(t) - y$, $\pi \leq t \leq 2\pi$, $y(\pi) = 1$, $y(t) = \frac{1}{2}e^{\pi-t} + \frac{1}{2}\sin(t) - \frac{1}{2}\cos(t)$, $h = \frac{\pi}{10}$

e. $y' + \frac{4y}{t} = t^4$, $1 \leq t \leq 2$, $y(1) = 1$, $y(t) = \frac{1}{9}t^5 + \frac{8}{9}t^{-4}$, $h = 0.1$

5. Consider the initial-value problem: $y' = \frac{t}{y}$, $0 \leq t \leq 5$, $y(0) = 1$. The true solution is $y(t) = \sqrt{t^2 + 1}$.

For each of the methods: Euler's Method, the 2nd order Taylor Method and the 4th order Taylor Method,

- (1) find an upper bound (as small as possible) of the truncation error $|\tau_{i+1}(h)|$ (use the true solution $y(t)$ to find M) and $|\tau_{i+1}(h)|$ with $h = 0.1$; and
- (2) find h such that $|\tau_{i+1}(h)| \leq 0.01$.