

Error Analysis

Create a program that computes an approximate value for the derivative of a function using the finite difference formula

$$f'(x) \approx \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

1. Test the program using $f(x) = \tan x$ for $x = 1$
2. Determine the magnitude of the error by comparing the square of the built-in function $\sec x$ (note: the derivative of $\tan x$ is $\sec^2 x$.)
3. Plot the magnitude of the error as a function of h for $h = 10^{-k}$, $k = 0, 1, \dots, 16$. Use log-scale plot for h and for the magnitude of the error.