

Goal : apply Theorem 1 (proved last time) to prove the convergence of Euler's method

Theorem 2 Suppose

1° $f(\cdot, \cdot)$ is continuous

2° f satisfies a Lipschitz condition with respect to the second argument on $[a, b] \times [y_0 - C, y_0 + C]$

$$\forall t \in [a, b] \quad \forall x, \tilde{x} \in [y_0 - C, y_0 + C]$$

$$|f(t, x) - f(t, \tilde{x})| \leq L |x - \tilde{x}|$$

3° $\forall n \in \{0, 1, \dots, N-1\} \quad y_{n+1} = y_n + h f(t_n, y_n) \in [y_0 - C, y_0 + C]$

Then,

$$\forall n \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\} \quad |e_n| \leq \frac{h}{2L} (\exp(L(t_n - a)) - 1) \cdot \max_{\xi \in [a, b]} |y''(\xi)|,$$

where y is the exact solution to the initial value problem.

Proof We apply Theorem 1 where

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_n &= \frac{y(t_{n+1}) - y(t_n)}{h} - f(t_n, y(t_n)) = \frac{y''(t_n)}{2!} h + \frac{y'''(t_n)}{3!} h^2 + \dots \\ &= \frac{y''(\xi_n)}{2} h, \text{ where } \xi_n \text{ is between } t_{n+1} \text{ and } t_n \end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$|\tau_n| \leq \frac{1}{2} h \max_{\xi \in [a, b]} |y''(\xi)|$$

By Theorem 1,

$$|e_n| \leq \frac{1}{L} (\exp(L(t_n - a)) - 1) \cdot \frac{1}{2} h \cdot \max_{\xi \in [a, b]} |y''(\xi)|$$

which finishes the proof.