

condition  $y(x_0) = y_0$  is satisfied.

Proof: In order to prove the theorem we first establish that whenever  $y$  is a real valued function on some closed interval  $I$  with values in a closed interval  $\tilde{I}$  such that  $I \times \tilde{I} \subseteq D$ , and  $x_0 \in I$ , then  $y = y(x)$  is a solution of the differential equation (2) on  $I$  with  $y(x_0) = y_0$  if and only if  $y = y(x)$  is a solution on  $I$  of the integral equation  $y = y_0 + \int_{x_0}^x f(t, y(t)) dt \dots (3)$

Indeed, suppose that  $y = y(x)$  is a solution of the differential equation (2) on  $I$ , and  $y(x_0) = y_0$ . Then  $y$  is differentiable on  $I$  and  $y'(t) = f(t, y(t))$ ,  $\forall t \in I$ . Hence  $y(x) - y_0 = y(x) - y(x_0) = \int_{x_0}^x y'(t) dt = \int_{x_0}^x f(t, y(t)) dt$ ,  $\forall x \in I$ . Since the integrand on the right hand side is a continuous function of  $t$  (verify),  $y$  is differentiable on  $I$  and  $y'(x) = f(x, y(x))$ ,  $\forall x \in I$  (by known result of integral calculus). This shows that  $y = y(x)$  is a solution of the differential equation and  $y'(x) = f(x, y(x))$ .

Indeed, suppose that  $y = y(x)$  is a solution of the differential equation (2) on  $I$ , and  $y(x_0) = y_0$ . Then  $y$  is differentiable on  $I$ , and  $y'(t) = f(t, y(t))$ ,  $\forall t \in I$ . Hence  $y(x) - y_0 = y(x) - y(x_0) = \int_{x_0}^x y'(t) dt = \int_{x_0}^x f(t, y(t)) dt$ ,  $\forall x \in I$  which shows that  $y = y(x)$  is a solution

Conversely, assuming that  $y = g(x)$  is a solution of (3) on  $I$ , we get  $g(x) = y_0 + \int_{x_0}^x f(t, g(t)) dt$ ,  $\forall x \in I$ . Since the integrand on the right side is a continuous function of  $t$  (verify),  $g$  is differentiable on  $I$  and  $g'(x) = f(x, g(x))$ ,  $\forall x \in I$  (by known result of integral calculus). This shows that  $y = g(x)$  is a solution of the differential equation (2). Obviously  $g(x_0) = y_0$  also holds.

We now proceed to prove the theorem itself.

Since the function  $f$  is continuous on  $D$ , we have

$|f(x, y)| \leq M$  (for some  $M > 0$ ) in some open ball

$G \subseteq D$  such that  $(x_0, y_0) \in G$ . Now, we can choose a real number  $c > 0$  such that

$[x_0 - c, x_0 + c] \times [y_0 - Mc, y_0 + Mc] \subseteq G$  and  $kc < 1$ .

Let  $E$  denote the set of all continuous mappings on the closed interval  $[x_0 - c, x_0 + c]$  into the closed

interval  $[y_0 - Mc, y_0 + Mc]$ . Then  $E$  forms a complete metric space with respect to the uniform

metric  $d(h_1, h_2) = \sup \{|h_1(x) - h_2(x)| : x \in [x_0 - c, x_0 + c]\}$ ,

where  $h_1, h_2 \in E$ . Let us consider the map

$T: E \rightarrow E$  given by :

For  $g \in E$ ,  $T(g) = h$ , where  $h(x) = y_0 + \int_{x_0}^x f(t, g(t)) dt$ ,

$\forall x \in [x_0 - c, x_0 + c]$

That  $T(g) \in E$  follows from the following

considerations:  $x \in [x_0 - c, x_0 + c] \Rightarrow |h(x) - y_0| =$

$$= \left| \int_{x_0}^x f(t, g(t)) dt \right| \leq M|x - x_0| \leq Mc \Rightarrow$$

$h(x) \in [y_0 - Mc, y_0 + Mc]$ . Also, clearly  $h$  is

continuous. Thus  $T(g) \in E, \forall g \in E$

Now, for  $g_1, g_2 \in E$   $T(g_i) = h_i$  for  $i=1,2$ . Then

for all  $x \in [x_0 - c, x_0 + c]$  with  $x \geq x_0$ ,

$$|h_1(x) - h_2(x)| = \left| \int_{x_0}^x \{ f(t, g_1(t)) - f(t, g_2(t)) \} dt \right|$$

$$\leq k \int_{x_0}^x |g_1(t) - g_2(t)| dt \leq k \sup_{t \in [x_0 - c, x_0 + c]} |g_1(t) - g_2(t)| \cdot c$$

$= kc \cdot d(g_1, g_2)$ , the same inequality is valid

for  $x \leq x_0$

$$\text{Hence } \sup_{x \in [x_0 - c, x_0 + c]} |h_1(x) - h_2(x)| \leq kc \cdot d(g_1, g_2)$$

$$\text{i.e., } d(h_1, h_2) \leq kc \cdot d(g_1, g_2) \text{ with } kc < 1$$

$$\text{i.e., } d(T(g_1), T(g_2)) \leq kc d(g_1, g_2) \text{ with } kc < 1$$

So,  $T: E \rightarrow E$  is a contraction mapping.

Since  $E$  is a complete metric space, by Banach's fixed point theorem,  $T$  has a unique fixed point

$g$  (say)  $\in E$  so that  $g = T(g)$ . Then  $y = g(x)$  is a solution of the integral equation (3). Then

by what was observed at the outset, the differential equation (2) has a solution  $y = g(x)$

for which the given boundary condition  $y_0 = g(x_0)$ .

also holds.

Let  $g_1$  be another solution of the given differential equation with  $g_1(x_0) = y_0$ . Then  $g_1'(x) = f(x, g_1(x))$ ,

$$\forall x \in [x_0 - c, x_0 + c] \text{ and } g_1(x_0) = y_0$$

Now  $g_1$  is a solution of the integral equation

$$(3) \text{ and hence } g_1(x) = y_0 + \int_{x_0}^x f(t, g_1(t)) dt$$

$$= T(g_1)(x) \forall x \in [x_0 - c, x_0 + c], \text{ i.e., } T(g_1) = g_1,$$

proving that  $g_1$  is a fixed point of  $T$ .

By uniqueness of the fixed point of  $T$ ,  $g = g_1$ . Hence the solution of the differential equation (2), satisfying the given condition is unique. This completes the proof.