

Quiz # 10– Math 2233, Differential Equations – Nov. 13, 2008

1. Solve the problem

$$\begin{cases} y'' + 4y = \delta(t - \pi) - \delta(t - 2\pi) \\ y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Formula: $\mathcal{L}\{\delta(t - c)\} = e^{-cs}$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\sin at\} = \frac{a}{s^2 + a^2}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{u_c(t)f(t - c)\} = e^{-cs}F(s)$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{f^{(n)}(t)\} = s^n F(s) - s^{n-1}f(0) - \dots - sf^{(n-2)}(0) - f^{(n-1)}(0)$$

Solution.

Step 1 Take Laplace transform on both sides of the equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}\{y'' + 4y\} &= \mathcal{L}\{\delta(t - \pi) - \delta(t - 2\pi)\} \\ \Rightarrow s^2\mathcal{L}\{y\} - sy(0) - y'(0) + 4\mathcal{L}\{y\} &= e^{-\pi s} - e^{-2\pi s} \\ \Rightarrow (s^2 + 4)\mathcal{L}\{y\} &= e^{-\pi s} - e^{-2\pi s} \\ \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}\{y\} &= \frac{e^{-\pi s} - e^{-2\pi s}}{s^2 + 4} \end{aligned}$$

Step 2 Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{e^{-\pi s} - e^{-2\pi s}}{s^2 + 4}\right\} \\ &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{e^{-\pi s}}{s^2 + 4}\right\} - \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{e^{-2\pi s}}{s^2 + 4}\right\} \end{aligned}$$

To compute $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{e^{-\pi s}}{s^2 + 4}\right\}$, we notice that

$$c = \pi, \quad F(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + 4} \Rightarrow f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s^2 + 4}\right\} = \frac{1}{2} \sin 2t$$

Hence

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{e^{-\pi s}}{s^2 + 4}\right\} = u_\pi(t)f(t - \pi) = u_\pi(t)\frac{1}{2} \sin 2(t - \pi)$$

Similarly

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{e^{-2\pi s}}{s^2 + 4}\right\} = u_{2\pi}(t)\frac{1}{2} \sin 2(t - 2\pi)$$

Combine all the above, we have

$$y = u_\pi(t)\frac{1}{2} \sin 2(t - \pi) - u_{2\pi}(t)\frac{1}{2} \sin 2(t - 2\pi)$$