

1a (10 pts.)

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } 0 \leq t < 2 \\ e^{3t} & \text{if } 2 \leq t \end{cases}$$

Use the definition of the Laplace transform to determine the Laplace transform of $f(t)$.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} F(s) &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt = \int_2^{\infty} e^{-st} e^{3t} dt \\ &= \int_2^{\infty} e^{(3-s)t} dt = \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \int_2^L e^{(3-s)t} dt \\ &= \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \left. \frac{e^{(3-s)t}}{3-s} \right|_{t=2}^{t=L} = \frac{(e^{(3-s)s} - e)}{3-s} \\ &= \frac{-e}{3-s} = \frac{e}{s-3} \end{aligned}$$

1b (15 pts.) Determine

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{3s+3}{s^2-6s+13} \right\}$$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{3s+3}{s^2-6s+13} &= \frac{3s+3}{s^2-6s+9+4} = \frac{3s+3}{(s-3)^2+2^2} \\ &= \frac{3(s-3)}{(s-3)^2+2^2} + \frac{12}{(s-3)^2+2^2} \\ &= 3 \cdot \frac{(s-3)}{(s-3)^2+2^2} + 6 \cdot \frac{2}{(s-3)^2+2^2} \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{3s+3}{s^2-6s+13} \right\} &= 3\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{(s-3)}{(s-3)^2+2^2} \right\} + 6\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{2}{(s-3)^2+2^2} \right\} \\ &= 3e^{3t} \cos 2t + 6e^{3t} \sin 2t \end{aligned}$$

2a (15 pts.) Consider the initial value problem

$$y'' - 3y' + 2y = 12e^{2t} \quad y(0) = 2 \quad y'(0) = 8$$

Let $Y(s) = \mathcal{L}\{y\}(s)$. Use Laplace transforms to show that

$$Y(s) = \frac{12}{(s-1)(s-2)^2} + \frac{2s+2}{(s-1)(s-2)}.$$

Solution: Taking the Laplace transform of both sides of the DE we have

$$\mathcal{L}\{y''\} - 3\mathcal{L}\{y'\} + 2\mathcal{L}\{y\} = 12\mathcal{L}\{e^{2t}\}$$

or letting $Y(s) = \mathcal{L}\{y\}(s)$

$$s^2 Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0) - 3\{Y(s) - y(0)\} + 2Y(s) = \frac{12}{s-2}$$

Using the given initial conditions we have

$$(s^2 - 3s + 2)Y(s) - 2s - 2 = \frac{12}{s-2}$$

Thus

$$Y(s) = \frac{12}{(s-2)^2(s-1)} + \frac{2s+2}{(s-2)(s-1)}$$

2b (15 pts.) Find the solution to the initial problem above, namely,

$$y'' - 3y' + 2y = 12e^{2t} \quad y(0) = 2 \quad y'(0) = 8$$

by finding

$$y(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{Y(s)\} = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{12}{(s-1)(s-2)^2} + \frac{2s+2}{(s-1)(s-2)}\right\}$$

Solution:

In order to invert $Y(s)$ we need to do a partial fractions breakup of $Y(s)$.

We have

$$\frac{12}{(s-1)(s-2)^2} + \frac{2s+2}{(s-1)(s-2)} = \frac{A}{s-1} + \frac{B}{s-2} + \frac{C}{(s-2)^2}$$

Multiplication by the common denominator gives

$$12 + (2s + 2)(s - 2) = A(s - 2)^2 + B(s - 2)(s - 1) + C(s - 1)$$

Set $s = 1$

$$12 - 4 = 8 = A$$

Set $s = 2$

$$12 = C$$

Equate the coefficient of s^2 on each side of the equation.

$$2 = A + B$$

$B = 2 - A = -6$. Now, combining everything, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Y(s) &= \frac{12}{(s-2)^2(s-1)} + \frac{2s+2}{(s-2)(s-1)} \\ &= \frac{8}{s-1} + \frac{-6}{s-2} + \frac{12}{(s-2)^2} \\ y(t) &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{Y(s)\} = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{8}{s-1} + \frac{-6}{s-2} + \frac{12}{(s-2)^2}\right\} \\ &= 8\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s-1}\right\} - 6\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s-2}\right\} + 12\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s-2)^2}\right\} \\ &= 8e^t - 6e^{2t} + 12te^{2t} \end{aligned}$$

3 (25 pts.) Find the first 5 nonzero terms of the power series solution about $x = 0$ for the DE:

$$y'' + 2x^2y = 0$$

Be sure to give the recurrence relation.

Solution:

$$y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n.$$

so

$$y' = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n n x^{n-1}$$

and

$$y'' = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n (n)(n-1) x^{n-2}$$

.

The differential equation \Rightarrow

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n (n)(n-1) x^{n-2} + 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+2} = 0$$

Shifting the first series by letting $n-2 = k$ or $n = k+2$, we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_{k+2} (k+2)(k+1) x^k + 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+2} = 0$$

Shifting the first series by letting $n+2 = k$ or $n = k-2$ we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_{k+2} (k+2)(k+1) x^k + 2 \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-2} x^k = 0$$

Since the first series has two more terms, we have

$$2a_2 + 3 \cdot 2a_3 x + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [a_{k+2} (k+2)(k+1) + 2a_{k-2}] x^k = 0$$

Thus

$$a_2 = a_3 = 0$$

and we have the recurrence relation

$$a_{k+2} (k+2)(k+1) + 2a_{k-2} = 0 \quad \text{for } k = 2, 3, 4, \dots$$

or

$$a_{k+2} = -\frac{2}{(k+2)(k+1)} a_{k-2} \quad \text{for } k = 2, 3, 4, \dots$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_4 &= \frac{-2}{4 \cdot 3} a_0 \\
 a_5 &= \frac{-2}{5 \cdot 4} a_1 \\
 a_6 &= \frac{-2}{6 \cdot 5} a_2 = 0 \\
 a_7 &= \frac{-2}{7 \cdot 6} a_3 = 0 \\
 a_8 &= \frac{-2}{8 \cdot 7} a_4 = \frac{4}{8 \cdot 7 \cdot 4 \cdot 3} a_0
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$y(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n = a_0 \left[1 + \frac{-2}{4 \cdot 3} x^4 + \frac{4}{8 \cdot 7 \cdot 4 \cdot 3} x^8 + \dots \right] + a_1 \left[x + \frac{-2}{5 \cdot 4} x^5 + \dots \right]$$

4 (25 pts.) Find all eigenvalues (λ) and the corresponding eigenfunctions for the boundary value problem

$$y'' + 3y + \lambda y = 0 \quad y'(0) = y'(\pi) = 0$$

Be sure to consider all values of λ .

Solution: This is an equation with constant coefficients. The characteristic equation is

$$r^2 + 3 + \lambda = 0$$

Thus

$$r = \sqrt{-3 - \lambda}$$

There are 3 cases to consider: $-3 - \lambda > 0$, $-3 - \lambda = 0$, and $-3 - \lambda < 0$.

Case I: $-3 - \lambda > 0$, that is $\lambda < -3$. Let $-3 - \lambda = \mu^2 \neq 0$. We have the two roots $r = \pm \mu$, and the solution

$$\begin{aligned}
 y(x) &= c_1 e^{\mu x} + c_2 e^{-\mu x} \\
 y'(x) &= \mu(c_1 e^{\mu x} - c_2 e^{-\mu x}) \\
 y'(0) &= c_1 - c_2 = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

so $c_1 = c_2$ and

$$y'(x) = \mu c_1 (e^{\mu x} - e^{-\mu x})$$

Then

$$y'(\pi) = \mu c_1 (e^{\pi \mu} - e^{-\pi \mu}) = 0$$

Since $e^{\pi \mu} - e^{-\pi \mu} \neq 0$ this implies that $c_1 = 0$ and therefore $c_2 = 0$ and the only solution for $\lambda < -3$ is the trivial solution $y = 0$. Hence there are no eigenvalues if $\lambda < -3$.

Case II: $\lambda = -3$. Then $r = 0$ is a repeated root, and

$$y(x) = c_1 + c_2x$$

$$y'(x) = c_2$$

$$y'(0) = c_2 = 0$$

$$y'(x) = 0$$

$$y'(2) = 0$$

Therefore c_1 may be any value and $\lambda = -3$ is an eigenvalue. Anticipating additional values in the next case, we write the eigenvalue and corresponding eigenfunction as

$$\lambda_0 = -3$$

$$y_0 = c_0.$$

Case III. $-3 - \lambda < 0$, that is $\lambda > -3$. Let $-3 - \lambda = -\mu^2 \neq 0$. We have the complex roots $r = \pm\mu i$ and

$$y(x) = [c_1 \cos(\mu x) + c_2 \sin(\mu x)]$$

$$y'(x) = \mu[-c_1 \sin(\mu x) + c_2 \cos(\mu x)]$$

$$y'(0) = \mu c_2 = 0$$

so $c_2 = 0$.

Thus

$$y'(x) = -\mu c_1 \sin(\mu x)$$

$$y'(\pi) = -\mu c_1 \sin(\pi \mu)$$

So, for a non-zero solution, we must have

$$\sin(\pi \mu) = 0$$

Thus $\pi \mu$ must be an integral multiple of π .

$$\pi \mu = n\pi \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

or

$$\mu_n = n \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

And finally

$$\lambda_n = -3 + \mu^2 = -3 + n^2 \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

are eigenvalues with corresponding eigenfunctions

$$y_n(x) = c_n \cos(nx) \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Finally, we may combine cases II and III to have the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions

$$\lambda_n = -3 + n^2 \quad n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$y_n(x) = c_n \cos(nx) \quad n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Table of Laplace Transforms

$f(t)$	$F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f\}(s) = \hat{f}(s)$		
$\frac{t^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}$	$\frac{1}{s^n}$	$n \geq 1$	$s > 0$
e^{at}	$\frac{1}{s-a}$		$s > a$
$\sin bt$	$\frac{b}{s^2 + b^2}$		$s > 0$
$\cos bt$	$\frac{s}{s^2 + b^2}$		$s > 0$
$e^{at}f(t)$	$\mathcal{L}\{f\}(s-a)$		
$t^n f(t)$	$(-1)^n \frac{d^n}{ds^n} (\mathcal{L}\{f\}(s))$		