

Use Laplace transforms to solve the IVPs below:

$$1. \ y' + 2y = f(t), \ y(0) = 0, \ \text{where } f(t) = \begin{cases} t, & 0 \leq t < 3 \\ 0, & t \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

(i) Take the Laplace transform of each side of the DE

The easiest approach is to first write  $f(t)$  in terms of a unit step function.

$$\begin{aligned} f(t) &= \begin{cases} t - 0, & 0 \leq t < 3 \\ t - t, & t \geq 3 \end{cases} \\ &= t - t\mathcal{U}(t - 3) \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}\{y' + 2y\} &= \mathcal{L}\{t - t\mathcal{U}(t - 3)\} \\ sY(s) - y(0) + 2Y(s) &= \frac{1}{s^2} - \mathcal{L}\{t\mathcal{U}(t - 3)\} \\ (s + 2)Y(s) &= \frac{1}{s^2} - e^{-3t}\mathcal{L}\{t + 3\} \\ (s + 2)Y(s) &= \frac{1}{s^2} - e^{-3t}\left(\frac{1}{s^2} + \frac{3}{s}\right) \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Solve for  $Y(s)$  and write in a form we can transform back

$$\begin{aligned} Y(s) &= \frac{1}{s^2(s + 2)} - e^{-3t}\left(\frac{1}{s^2(s + 2)} + \frac{3}{s(s + 2)}\right) \\ &= \text{(use convert( , parfrac); on the two sets of rational functions)} \\ &= -\frac{1}{4s} + \frac{1}{2s^2} + \frac{1}{4(s + 2)} - e^{-3t}\left(\frac{5}{4s} + \frac{1}{2s^2} - \frac{5}{4(s + 2)}\right) \end{aligned}$$

(iii) Take the inverse Laplace transform to solve the IVP

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{Y(s)\} &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{-\frac{1}{4s} + \frac{1}{2s^2} + \frac{1}{4(s+2)}\right. \\
 &\quad \left.- e^{-3t}\left(\frac{5}{4s} + \frac{1}{2s^2} - \frac{5}{4(s+2)}\right)\right\} \\
 y(t) &= -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{1}{4}e^{-2t} - \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{e^{-3t}\left(\frac{5}{4s} + \frac{1}{2s^2} - \frac{5}{4(s+2)}\right)\right\} \\
 &= -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{1}{4}e^{-2t} \\
 &\quad - \mathcal{U}(t-3)\left(\frac{5}{4} \cdot 1 \Big|_{t \rightarrow t-3} + \frac{1}{2}t \Big|_{t \rightarrow t-3} - \frac{5}{4}e^{-2t} \Big|_{t \rightarrow t-3}\right) \\
 &= -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{1}{4}e^{-2t} - \mathcal{U}(t-3)\left(\frac{5}{4} + \frac{1}{2}(t-3) - \frac{5}{4}e^{-2(t-3)}\right) \\
 &= \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{1}{4}e^{-2t}, & 0 \leq t < 3 \\ -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}t + \frac{1}{4}e^{-2t} - \frac{5}{4} - \frac{1}{2}(t-3) + \frac{5}{4}e^{-2(t-3)}, & t \geq 3 \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

2.  $y'' + 4y = f(t)$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ ,  $y'(0) = 0$ , where  $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi \\ \sin(t), & t \geq 2\pi \end{cases}$

**Hint:** You may find it helpful to remember that  $\sin(t) = \sin(t - 2\pi)$ .

(i) Take the Laplace transform of both sides of the DE.

Once again, the easiest way to get started is to write  $f(t)$  in terms of the unit step function.

$$f(t) = \sin(t)\mathcal{U}(t - 2\pi).$$

If I in fact write this as  $f(t) = \sin(t - 2\pi)\mathcal{U}(t - 2\pi)$ , then I can use the first form of the 2nd translation theorem, which involves slightly fewer steps.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L}\{y'' + 4y\} &= \mathcal{L}\{\sin(t - 2\pi)\mathcal{U}(t - 2\pi)\} \\
 s^2Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0) + 4Y(s) &= e^{-2\pi s}\mathcal{L}\{\sin(t)\} \\
 (s^2 + 4)Y(s) - s &= e^{-2\pi s}\frac{1}{s^2 + 1}
 \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Solve for  $Y(s)$  and write in a form we can transform back.

$$\begin{aligned} Y(s) &= \frac{s}{s^2 + 4} + e^{-2\pi s} \frac{1}{(s^2 + 1)(s^2 + 4)} \\ &= \text{(decompose into partial fractions)} \\ &= \frac{s}{s^2 + 4} + e^{-2\pi s} \left( \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} - \frac{1}{3} \frac{1}{s^2 + 2^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

(iii) Take the inverse Laplace transform to solve the IVP

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{Y(s)\} &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{ \frac{s}{s^2 + 4} + e^{-2\pi s} \left( \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} - \frac{1}{3} \frac{1}{s^2 + 2^2} \right) \right\} \\ y(t) &= \cos(2t) + \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{ e^{-2\pi s} \left( \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} - \frac{1}{3} \frac{1}{s^2 + 2^2} \right) \right\} \\ &= \cos(2t) + \mathcal{U}(t - 2\pi) \left( \frac{1}{3} \sin(t) \Big|_{t \rightarrow t - 2\pi} - \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sin(2t) \Big|_{t \rightarrow t - 2\pi} \right) \\ &= \cos(2t) + \mathcal{U}(t - 2\pi) \left( \frac{1}{3} \sin(t - 2\pi) - \frac{1}{6} \sin(2(t - 2\pi)) \right) \\ &= \cos(2t) + \mathcal{U}(t - 2\pi) \left( \frac{1}{3} \sin(t) - \frac{1}{6} \sin(2t) \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} \cos(2t), & 0 \leq t < 2\pi \\ \cos(2t) + \frac{1}{3} \sin(t) - \frac{1}{6} \sin(2t), & t \geq 2\pi \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$