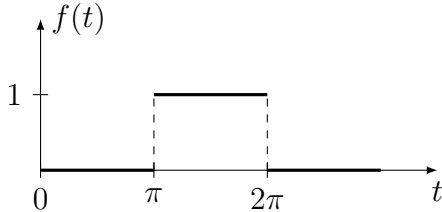


1. [3 pts] The graph of the function $f(t)$ is shown below.
Express $f(t)$ in terms of the unit step function and find $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$.



2. [7 pts] Solve the initial value problem

$$y'' + y = f(t), \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 1.$$

Solution of question 1: We have

$$f(t) = u(t - \pi) - u(t - 2\pi).$$

Therefore

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \mathcal{L}\{u(t - \pi)\} - \mathcal{L}\{u(t - 2\pi)\} = \frac{e^{-\pi s}}{s} - \frac{e^{-2\pi s}}{s} = \frac{1}{s} [e^{-\pi s} - e^{-2\pi s}].$$

Solution of question 2: Applying the Laplace transform to the differential equation, we get

$$s^2 \mathcal{L}\{y\} - sy(0) - y'(0) + \mathcal{L}\{y\} = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\},$$

Substituting the given initial conditions and the Laplace transform computed above, we get

$$(s^2 + 1)\mathcal{L}\{y\} - 1 = \frac{1}{s} [e^{-\pi s} - e^{-2\pi s}]$$

when we obtain

$$\mathcal{L}\{y\} = \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} + \frac{1}{s(s^2 + 1)} [e^{-\pi s} - e^{-2\pi s}]. \quad (1)$$

We recognize the first term on the right-hand side as the Laplace transform of $\sin t$. To evaluate the second term, we split it into partial fractions, as in

$$\frac{1}{s(s^2 + 1)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{Bs + C}{s^2 + 1}. \quad (2)$$

To calculate A , we multiply equation (2) by s

$$\frac{1}{s^2 + 1} = A + \frac{Bs + C}{s^2 + 1} \times s,$$

and then let $s = 0$ and conclude that $A = 1$. To calculate B and C , we multiply equation (2) by $s^2 + 1$

$$\frac{1}{s} = \frac{A}{s} \times (s^2 + 1) + Bs + c,$$

and then let $s = i$, whereby

$$\frac{1}{i} = Bi + C.$$

Multiplying through by i , we see that

$$1 = -B + iC,$$

whence we conclude that $B = -1$, $C = 0$. Thus, equation (2) takes the form

$$\frac{1}{s(s^2 + 1)} = \frac{1}{s} - \frac{s}{s^2 + 1} = \mathcal{L}\{1\} - \mathcal{L}\{\cos t\} = \mathcal{L}\{1 - \cos t\}.$$

Returning to equation (1), we now have

$$\mathcal{L}\{y\} = \mathcal{L}\{\sin t\} + \mathcal{L}\{1 - \cos t\} \Big|_{\text{delayed by } \pi} - \mathcal{L}\{1 - \cos t\} \Big|_{\text{delayed by } 2\pi},$$

and therefore

$$y(t) = \sin t + [1 - \cos(t - \pi)]u(t - \pi) - [1 - \cos(t - 2\pi)]u(t - 2\pi).$$

Optionally, this answer may be decoded as follows. We have $\cos(t - \pi) = -\cos t$ and $\cos(t - 2\pi) = \cos t$. Therefore

$$y(t) = \begin{cases} \sin t & 0 < t < \pi, \\ \sin t + 1 + \cos t & \pi < t < 2\pi, \\ \sin t + 1 + \cos t - 1 + \cos t & t > 2\pi, \end{cases}$$

which simplifies to

$$y(t) = \begin{cases} \sin t & 0 < t < \pi, \\ 1 + \sin t + \cos t & \pi < t < 2\pi, \\ \sin t + 2 \cos t & t > 2\pi. \end{cases}$$