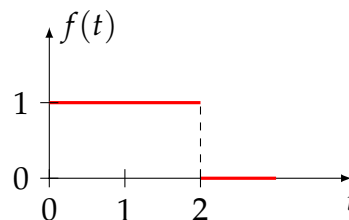


1. Solve the initial value problem $y'' + y = f(t)$, $y(0) = 1$, $y'(0) = 0$, where $f(t)$ is shown in the graph.



Solution: [Like Exercises 4–12 of section 5.6]

Applying the Laplace transform to the equation, we get

$$\left[s^2 \mathcal{L}\{y(t)\} - sy(0) - y'(0) \right] + \mathcal{L}\{y(t)\} = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}.$$

But we have $f(t) = 1 - u(t - 2)$, and therefore $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s}e^{-2s}$. Substituting this and the initial conditions into the equation, we obtain

$$(s^2 + 1)\mathcal{L}\{y(t)\} - s = \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s}e^{-2s},$$

and therefore

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

Inverting this, calls for the partial fractions decomposition of

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

To find A , we multiply $(**)$ through by s :

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

and then set $s = 0$ and get $A = 1$. To find B and C , we multiply $(**)$ through by $s^2 + 1$:

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

and set $s = i$ which leads to

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

Multiplying this by i yields

$$1 = -B + Ci.$$

We conclude that $B = -1$ and $C = 0$, and therefore $(**)$ takes the form

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

This enables us to express equation $(*)$ as

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

that is

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

We apply the inverse Laplace transform to this, and observe that on the right-hand side, the inverse transform of the 3rd term is the delayed version of that of the 2nd term:

$$y(t) = \cos t + [1 - \cos t] - u(t - 2)[1 - \cos(t - 2)],$$

which simplifies to

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