MATH 20D Spring 2023 Lecture 19.

The Laplace Transforms Method for Solving IVP's and Transforms of Discontinuous Functions.

Outline

The Laplace Transforms Method for Solving IVP's

Transforms of Discontinuous Functions

Announcements

- Midterm 2 is next Wednesday during lecture.
- Midterm 2 is a cumulative exam for the material covered in lectures 1-20 and homeworks 1-6. However the emphasis of the exam will be the topics covered in
 - ► Homeworks 4, 5, and 6.
 - Lectures 11-20.
- Students seeking additional review problems are advised to study the exercise sets from Nagle, Saff, and Snider textbook sections 4.6, 4.7, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.6, & 7.9.
- Students are permitted the use of one double sided page of handwritten notes together with scientific calculator during the exam. No other electronic devices are permitted during the exam.

Contents

1 The Laplace Transforms Method for Solving IVP's

2 Transforms of Discontinuous Functions

• Recall if f'(t) is differentiable and of exponential order α then

$$\mathscr{L}{f'(t)}(s) = s\mathscr{L}{f(t)}(s) - f(0), \qquad s > \alpha.$$

$$\mathcal{L}{f''}(s)$$

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= $s(s\mathcal{L}{f}(s) - f(0)) - f'(0) = s^2\mathcal{L}{f}(s) - sf(0) - f'(0).$

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 \bullet This propery makes ${\mathscr L}$ a powerful tool for solving initial value probems.

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Differential Equation in t-space \longrightarrow Algebraic Equation in s-space

Example

(a) Using the method of Laplace transform, solve the initial value problem

$$y'' + 9y = 0;$$
 $y(0) = 3,$ $y'(0) = 0.$

Example

Solve the initial value problem

$$y'' - 2y' + 5y = -8e^{-t},$$
 $y(0) = 2,$ $y'(0) = 12.$

Contents

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Transforms of Discontinuous Functions

For applications of differential equations to "start-stop" phenomena it is convenient to introduce the **unit step function** or **Heaviside step function**

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Write a differential equation governing the amount of salt in the tank at time t.

The Laplace transform plays nicely with the Heaviside step function.

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Theorem

Suppose $F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}(s)$ exists for $s > \alpha \geqslant 0$. If a is a positive constant, then

$$\mathscr{L}\lbrace f(t-a)u(t-a)\rbrace(s)=e^{-as}F(s),$$

and conversely $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{e^{-as}F(s)\}(t)=f(t-a)u(t-a).$

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(d) $\mathcal{L}\{\Pi_{a,b}(t)\}(s)$ with $0 \le a < b < \infty$ constant and

$$\Pi_{a,b}(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t < a \text{ or } t > b, \\ 1, & a < t < b. \end{cases}$$

Example

Using the method of Laplace transform, solve the initial value problem

$$y''(t) + 4y(t) = g(t),$$
 $y(0) = 0,$ $y'(0) = 0,$

where

$$g(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < t < 1, \\ -1, & 1 < t < 2, \\ 0, & 2 < t. \end{cases}$$