

Answer on Question #42602– Math – Differential Calculus | Equation

Question:

Using laplace transforms solve the following ordinary differential equation

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 3\frac{dy}{dt} + 2y = 2(t^2 + t + 1); y(0) = 2, y'(0) = 0$$

Solution:

Let $Y(s)=L[y(t)](s)$. Instead of solving directly for $y(t)$, we derive a new equation for $Y(s)$. Once we find $Y(s)$, we inverse transform to determine $y(t)$.

The first step is to take the Laplace transform of both sides of the original differential equation. We have

$$L[y'' + 3y' + 2y](s) = L[2(t^2 + t + 1)](s)$$

If we look at the left-hand side, we have

$$L[y'' + 3y' + 2y](s) = L[y''](s) + 3L[y'](s) + 2L[y](s)$$

Now use the formulas for the $L[y'']$, $L[y']$ and $L[y]$:

$$L[y'] = sL[y] - y(0) = sY(s) - 1;$$

$$L[y''] = s^2L[y] - sy(0) - y'(0) = s^2Y(s) - s - 2;$$

Hence, we have

$$L[y'' + 3y' + 2y](s) = s^2Y(s) - s - 2 + 3(sY(s) - 1) + 2Y(s).$$

If we look at the right-hand side, we have

$$L[2(t^2 + t + 1)](s) = 2L[t^2](s) + 2L[t](s) + 2L[1](s)$$

Now use the formulas for the $L[t^2]$, $L[t]$ and $L[1]$:

$$L[t^2] = \frac{2}{s^3}, \quad L[t] = \frac{1}{s^2}, \quad L[1] = \frac{1}{s}.$$

The Laplace-transformed differential equation is

$$s^2Y(s) - s - 2 + 3(sY(s) - 1) + 2Y(s) = \frac{4}{s^3} + \frac{2}{s^2} + \frac{2}{s}$$

$$(s^2 + 3s + 2)Y(s) = s + 5 + \frac{4}{s^3} + \frac{2}{s^2} + \frac{2}{s}$$

Or

$$(s^2 + 3s + 2)Y(s) = \frac{(s + 1)(s^3 + 4s^2 - 2s + 4)}{s^3}$$

This is a linear algebraic equation for $Y(s)$! We have converted a differential equation into an algebraic equation! Solving for $Y(s)$, we have

$$Y(s) = \frac{(s + 1)(s^3 + 4s^2 - 2s + 4)}{s^3(s^2 + 3s + 2)}$$

We can simplify this expression using the method of partial fractions:

$$Y(s) = \frac{2}{s^3} - \frac{2}{s^2} - \frac{2}{s+2} + \frac{3}{s} \quad (\text{for } s \neq -1)$$

Recall the inverse transforms:

$$L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^3}\right](t) = \frac{1}{2t^2}, \quad L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^2}\right](t) = t, \quad L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s+2}\right](t) = e^{-2t}, \quad L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s}\right](t) = 1$$

Using linearity of the inverse transform, we have

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= L^{-1}\left[\frac{2}{s^3} - \frac{2}{s^2} - \frac{2}{s+2} + \frac{3}{s}\right] = 2 * \frac{1}{2}t^2 - 2 * t - e^{-2t} + 3 * 1 = \\ &= t^2 - 2t - e^{-2t} + 3; \end{aligned}$$

Answer. $y(t) = t^2 - 2t - e^{-2t} + 3;$