

Part IA Mathematics Examples paper, Solutions

(1)

(1) $F\delta(t) = 0$ except when $t=0$, and $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F\delta(t) dt = F$

So F is a "very large force for a very short time", in other words an impulse of magnitude F at time $t=0$

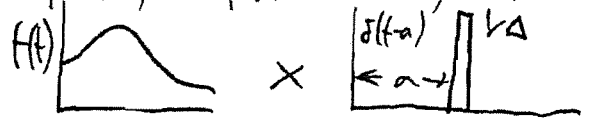
$P\delta(x-a)$ is zero except at $x-a=0$, i.e. $x=a$. The integrated value is P . So this represents a point load P at the point $x=a$

2. $\delta(t)$ is a unit impulse at $t=0$, the limit as $\Delta \rightarrow 0$ of the function:



$\delta(t-a)$ is a unit impulse occurring where $t-a=0$ i.e. at $t=a$.

For a continuous function $f(t)$, $f(t)\delta(t-a)$ is approximately the product



As $\Delta \rightarrow 0$, the product is only non-zero very near $t=a$. So $\int \delta(t-a) f(t) dt \approx \int \delta(t-a) f(a) dt = f(a)$

(provided $t=a$ lies within the range of integration)

(i) $\int_0^3 \delta(t-3) dt = 1$ since $t=3$ lies between 0 and 3

(ii) $\int_{-1}^1 \delta(x) \sin(x) dx = \sin 0 = 0$

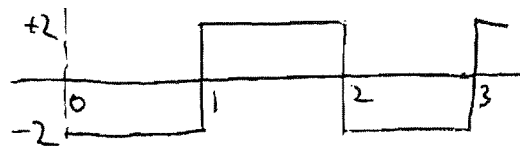
(iii) $\int_0^1 \delta(x - \pi/4) \exp(\cos(1/x)) dx = \exp(\cos(1/(\pi/4)))$

because $0 < \pi/4 < 1$

$= \exp(\cos(4/\pi)) = 1.3407$

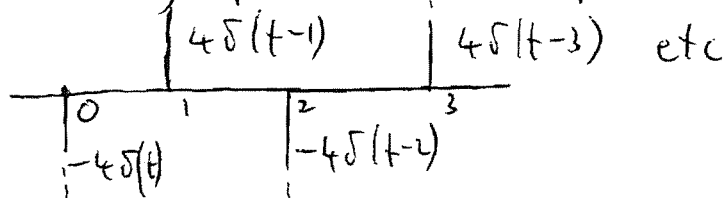
(v) $\int_0^1 \delta(x + \pi/4) \cos x dx = 0$ since $-\pi/4$ is not in the range $0 \rightarrow 1$

3 (i) $\frac{df}{dt}$ is the square wave



All jumps of magnitude 4.

$\frac{d^2f}{dt^2}$ consists entirely of delta functions, from these jumps

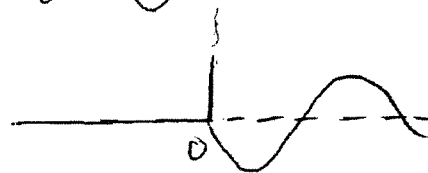
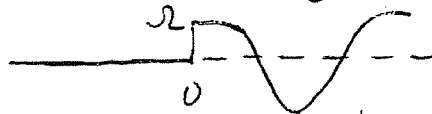
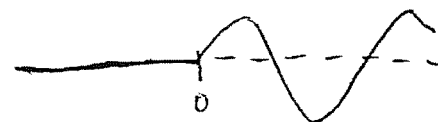


(ii) $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ \sin \Omega t & t > 0 \end{cases}$

$\frac{df}{dt} = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ \Omega \cos \Omega t & t > 0 \end{cases}$

Note jump at $t=0$

$\frac{d^2f}{dt^2} = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ \Omega^2 \delta(t) - \Omega^2 \sin \Omega t, & t > 0 \end{cases}$



4) For $t < 0$ $f=0$, and $y=0$ is a solution

For $t > 0$ $f=1$ and the equation is

$\frac{dy}{dt} + 3y = 1$ ①

Complementary function: solve $\dot{y} + 3y = 0$ to get $y = Ae^{-3t}$

Particular integral: try $y = x$ (constant)

Then from ① $3x = 1$, so $x = 1/3$

So general solution is CF + PI, $y = Ae^{-3t} + 1/3$

Now at $t=0$ y must be continuous: if y had a jump, \dot{y} would have a delta function, and nothing else in ① could balance this.

So at $t=0$ we have $y=0$, so $A + 1/3 = 0$

\therefore step response is $y = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ 1/3 (1 - e^{-3t}) & t > 0 \end{cases}$

Impulse response = $\frac{d}{dt}(\text{step response}) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ e^{-3t} & t > 0 \end{cases}$

4 (ii) Same method as (i). For $t < 0$, $y = 0$.

For $t > 0$ we have $\ddot{y} + 4y = 1$

C.F. : $\ddot{y} + 4y = 0 \rightarrow y = A \cos 2t + B \sin 2t$

P.I. : Try $y = x$, then need $4x = 1$, so $x = 1/4$

So general solution is $y = 1/4 + A \cos 2t + B \sin 2t$

At $t=0$: if y had a jump, \dot{y} would have a delta function and \ddot{y} would have $\frac{d}{dt}(\delta(t))$. This could not satisfy the equation, so y is continuous.

Similarly, if \dot{y} had a jump, \ddot{y} would have $\delta(t)$, and so \dot{y} must be continuous.

So at $t=0$ $\begin{cases} y=0 \rightarrow 1/4 + A = 0 \rightarrow A = -1/4 \\ \dot{y}=0 \rightarrow B = 0 \end{cases}$

So step response $y = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ 1/4(1 - \cos 2t) & t > 0 \end{cases}$

Impulse response $= \frac{d}{dt}(\text{step response}) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ 1/2 \sin 2t & t > 0 \end{cases}$

5. (i) For $t < 0$ $f=0$, and $y=0$

For $t > 0$ $f=1$ and equation is $\dot{y} + \alpha y = 1$

C.F. is $y = A e^{-\alpha t}$

P.I. : try $y = B \rightarrow \alpha B = 1 \rightarrow B = 1/\alpha$

So general solution is $y = 1/\alpha + A e^{-\alpha t}$

At $t=0$ $y=0$, so $1/\alpha + A = 0 \rightarrow A = -1/\alpha$

So step response is $y = \frac{1}{\alpha}(1 - e^{-\alpha t})$ for $t > 0$

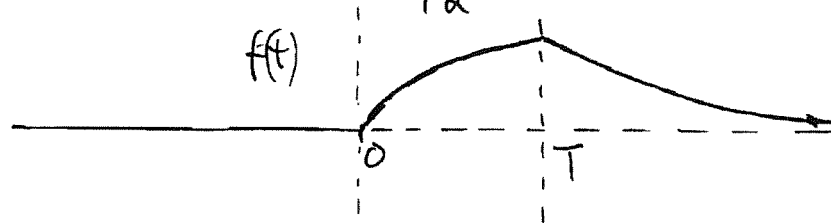
(ii) If the unit step function is $H(t)$, the required input is $f(t) = \frac{1}{T}(H(t) - H(t-T))$

The output thus a superposition of two step responses, as found in (i)

(4)

5 cont. Output $y = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ \frac{1}{T\alpha} (1 - e^{-\alpha t}) & 0 \leq t \leq T \\ \frac{1}{T\alpha} [(1 - e^{-\alpha t}) - (1 - e^{-\alpha(t-T)})] & t > T \end{cases}$

The last part simplifies to $\frac{1}{T\alpha} e^{-\alpha t} (e^{\alpha T} - 1)$



As $T \rightarrow 0$, $e^{\alpha T} \approx 1 + \alpha T + \frac{(\alpha T)^2}{2!} + \dots$

So $\frac{1}{T\alpha} e^{-\alpha t} (e^{\alpha T} - 1) \approx e^{-\alpha t} \frac{\alpha T + \frac{\alpha^2 T^2}{2} \dots}{\alpha T}$

So response tends to $y = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ e^{-\alpha t} & t > 0 \end{cases}$
which is indeed the impulse response.

6 Impulse response from 4(i) was $g(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ e^{-3t} & t > 0 \end{cases}$

(i) Input $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ e^{-2t} & t > 0 \end{cases}$

Output is $y(t) = \int_0^t g(t-\tau) f(\tau) d\tau$ for $t > 0$

$$= \int_0^t e^{-3(t-\tau)} e^{-2\tau} d\tau = e^{-3t} [e^{\tau}]_0^t$$

$$= e^{-2t} - e^{-3t}$$

Check: $\dot{y} = -2e^{-2t} + 3e^{-3t}$

So $\dot{y} + 3y = e^{-2t} = f(t)$ for $t > 0$ ✓

(5)

6 (ii) Input $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ \sin t & t > 0 \end{cases}$

Output $y(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t g(t-\tau) f(\tau) d\tau$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^t e^{-3(t-\tau)} \sin \tau d\tau$$

$$= e^{-3t} \int_0^t e^{3\tau} \left(\frac{e^{i\tau} - e^{-i\tau}}{2i} \right) d\tau$$

$$= \frac{e^{-3t}}{2i} \left[\frac{e^{(3+i)\tau}}{3+i} - \frac{e^{(3-i)\tau}}{3-i} \right]_0^t$$

$$= \frac{e^{-3t}}{2i} \left[e^{3t} \left(\frac{e^{it}}{3+i} - \frac{e^{-it}}{3-i} \right) - \frac{1}{3+i} + \frac{1}{3-i} \right]$$

$$= \frac{(3-i)e^{it} - (3+i)e^{-it}}{2i(3^2+1^2)} - \frac{e^{-3t}}{2i} \left(\frac{3-i-3-i}{3^2+1^2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{10} (3 \sin t - \cos t + e^{-3t}) \quad \text{for } t > 0$$

Check: $\dot{y} = (3 \cos t + \sin t - 3e^{-3t})/10$ for $t > 0$
 $\therefore \dot{y} + 3y = \sin t$ ✓

7 (i) $\frac{1}{6} \ddot{y} + \frac{11}{12} \dot{y} + y = 1$ for $t > 0$

C.F.: Try $y = e^{\lambda t} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{6} \lambda^2 + \frac{11}{12} \lambda + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = -4$ or $-\frac{3}{2}$

so C.F. is $Ae^{-\frac{3}{2}t} + Be^{-4t}$

P.I.: Try $y = \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha = 1$

so general solution is $y = 1 + Ae^{-\frac{3}{2}t} + Be^{-4t}$

At $t=0$, $y = \dot{y} = 0 \Rightarrow 1 + A + B = 0$ and $-\frac{3A}{2} - 4B = 0$

Thus $A = -\frac{8}{5}$ and $B = \frac{3}{5}$

So the step response is

$$y = 1 - \frac{8e^{-\frac{3}{2}t}}{5} + \frac{3e^{-4t}}{5} \quad \text{for } t > 0.$$

7 (ii) Impulse response $= \frac{d}{dt} (\text{step response})$

$$\therefore g(t) = 12 \frac{e^{-3t/2}}{5} - 12 \frac{e^{-4t}}{5} \quad \text{for } t > 0$$

(iii) Now impose input $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ e^{-t} & t > 0 \end{cases}$

Output is $y(t) = \int_0^t g(t-\tau) f(\tau) d\tau$

$$= 12 \int_0^t \left\{ \frac{e^{-3(t-\tau)/2}}{5} - \frac{e^{-4(t-\tau)}}{5} \right\} e^{-\tau} d\tau$$

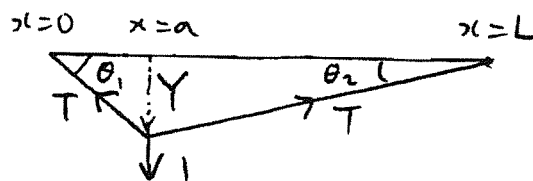
$$= \frac{e^{-3t/2}}{5} 12 \left[2 e^{\tau/2} \right]_0^t - \frac{e^{-4t}}{5} 12 \left[\frac{e^{3\tau}}{3} \right]_0^t$$

$$= \left(\frac{2e^{-t}}{5} - \frac{2e^{-3t/2}}{5} - \frac{e^{-t}}{15} + \frac{e^{-4t}}{15} \right) 12$$

$$= \frac{12}{15} \left\{ e^{-4t} - 6e^{-3t/2} + 5e^{-t} \right\}$$

[For 7iv) see next sheet]

8 (i) Stretched ^{changed to "rubber band"} curtain wire in response to a point load moves to a displaced shape consisting of two straight lines.



Exaggerated vertical scale

θ_1, θ_2 are assumed small, so that

$$\begin{cases} \sin \theta_1 \approx \theta_1 \approx \tan \theta_1 = \frac{Y}{a}, & \cos \theta_1 \approx 1 \\ \sin \theta_2 \approx \theta_2 \approx \tan \theta_2 = \frac{Y}{L-a}, & \cos \theta_2 \approx 1 \end{cases}$$

A unit load is applied, so force balance requires

$$1 = T \sin \theta_1 + T \sin \theta_2$$

8 cont.

$$\text{i.e. } TY \left[\frac{1}{L-a} + \frac{1}{a} \right] \approx 1$$

$$\therefore \frac{TYL}{a(L-a)} = 1, \text{ so } Y = \frac{a(L-a)}{LT}$$

$$\text{So } g(x, a) = \begin{cases} \frac{(L-a)x}{LT} & x < a \\ \frac{a(L-x)}{LT} & x > a \end{cases}$$

(ii) For a continuous load $f(x)$, we can approximate it by a row of small point loads (think of the curtain as a bead curtain!)

Each point load produces a suitably scaled version of $g(x, a)$ as found in (i). By superposition, total displacement is the sum of these. In the limit, this sum becomes an integral, just as for the time-varying case from lectures.

$$\text{So } y(x) = \int_0^L g(x, a) f(a) da$$

(iii) For $0 \leq x \leq L/2$:

$$y(x) = \int_0^x \frac{Fa(L-x)}{LT} da + \int_x^{L/2} \frac{F(L-a)x}{LT} da$$

In here, \uparrow
 $a \leq x$
 or $x \geq a$

In here, \uparrow
 $a > x$
 so $x \leq a$

$$= \frac{F(L-x)}{LT} \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{Fx}{LT} \left[La - \frac{a^2}{2} \right]_x^{L/2}$$

$$= \frac{F}{2LT} x^2(L-x) + \frac{Fx}{LT} \left[\frac{L^2}{2} - \frac{L^2}{8} - Lx + \frac{x^2}{2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{F}{8LT} \left\{ 4x^2L - 4x^3 + 3L^2x - 8Lx^2 + 4x^3 \right\}$$

$$= \frac{Fx}{8T} (3L - 4x)$$

8 cont.

$$\text{For } x > \frac{L}{2}: \quad y(x) = \int_0^{\frac{L}{2}} \underbrace{F a(L-x)}_{\substack{LT \\ \uparrow \\ x > a \text{ for whole range this time}}} da$$

$$= \frac{F(L-x)}{LT} \cdot \frac{L^2}{8} = \frac{FL(L-x)}{8T}$$

Check: At $x = \frac{L}{2}$, wire should be not broken.

From first solution, $y = \frac{FL}{16T} (3L - 2L) = \frac{FL^2}{16T}$

From second solution, $y = \frac{FL^2}{16T}$ ✓

Note that this problem involving convolution in space is a bit more tricky than problems involving time. The reason is that an impulse response in time is always zero for $t < 0$, but a spatial "impulse response" like $g(x, a)$ here has non-zero values on both sides of the delta function. This means that more care is needed to get the convolution integral right.

TPH/JW