2E2 Tutorial Sheet 2 First Term¹

26 October 2004

Useful facts:

• Laplace transform of differenciated functions: if $\mathcal{L}[f(t)] = F(s)$ then

$$\mathcal{L}(f') = sF - f(0) \tag{1}$$

and

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

• Partial fractions: assume

$$\frac{a}{(s-b)(s-c)} = \frac{A}{s-b} + \frac{B}{s-c} \tag{3}$$

multiply across by (s-b)(s-c)

$$a = A(s-c) + B(s-b) \tag{4}$$

and choose s = c and s = b to get A and B.

• Similarily,

$$\frac{a}{(s-b)(s-c)(s-d)} = \frac{A}{s-b} + \frac{B}{s-c} + \frac{C}{s-d}$$
 (5)

then multiply across by (s-b)(s-c)(s-d) and choose s equal to b, c and d to get A. B and C.

• Finally, it doesn't matter if there is a polynomial in s above the line:

$$\frac{as + e}{(s - b)(s - c)(s - d)} = \frac{A}{s - b} + \frac{B}{s - c} + \frac{C}{s - d}$$
 (6)

then multiply across by (s-b)(s-c)(s-d) and choose s equal to b, c and d to get A, B and C.

Questions

1. (2) Find the Laplace transform of both sides of the differential equation

$$2\frac{df}{dt} = 1$$

with initial conditions f(0) = 4. By solving the resulting equations find F(s). Based on the Laplace transforms you know, decide what f(t) is.

2. (2) Using the Laplace transform solve the differential equation

$$f'' - 4f' + 3f = 1 (7)$$

with boundary conditions f(0) = f'(0) = 0. You will need to do partial fractions.

3. (2) Using the Laplace transform solve the differential equation

$$f'' - 4f' + 3f = 0 (8)$$

with boundary conditions f(0) = 1 and f'(0) = 1.

4. (2) Using the Laplace transform solve the differential equation

$$f'' - 4f' + 3f = 0 (9)$$

with boundary conditions f(0) = 1 and f'(0) = 0.

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