

# Laplace transforms with piecewise functions

Use the Laplace transform to solve the following problems.

1.  $x'' + 4x = f(t)$ ,  $x(0) = 0$ ,  $x'(0) = 0$ , where

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} \cos 2t & \text{if } 0 \leq t < 2\pi \\ 0 & \text{if } t \geq 2\pi. \end{cases}$$

2.  $x'' + 4x' + 4x = f(t)$ ,  $x(0) = 0$ ,  $x'(0) = 0$ , where

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} t & \text{if } 0 \leq t < 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } t \geq 2. \end{cases}$$

## ANSWERS

$$1. \ f(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4}t \sin 2t & \text{if } 0 \leq t < 2\pi \\ \frac{1}{2}\pi \sin 2t & \text{if } t \geq 2\pi \end{cases}$$

$$2. \ f(t) = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{t}{4} + \frac{t+1}{4}e^{-2t} & \text{if } 0 \leq t < 2 \\ \frac{t+1}{4}e^{-2t} + \frac{3t-5}{4}e^{-2(t-2)} & \text{if } t \geq 2 \end{cases}$$