

R. Bruner
 Math 2150, Fall 2005, Quiz 14
 December 7, 2005

Use Laplace transforms to solve the differential equation

$$y'' + y = \begin{cases} 1 & t < \pi \\ 0 & t > \pi \end{cases}, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0.$$

Let $Y = \mathcal{L}\{y\}$. Then $\mathcal{L}\{y'\} = sY$ and $\mathcal{L}\{y''\} = s^2Y$.

The right hand side

$$\begin{cases} 1 & t < \pi \\ 0 & t > \pi \end{cases} = 1 - u(t-\pi)$$

So the transformed equation is

$$(s^2 + 1)Y = \frac{1}{s} - e^{-\pi s} \frac{1}{s} = (1 - e^{-\pi s}) \frac{1}{s}$$

with solution

$$Y = (1 - e^{-\pi s}) \frac{1}{s(s^2+1)}$$

$$\text{Now } \frac{1}{s(s^2+1)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{Bs}{s^2+1} + \frac{C}{s^2+1} = \frac{1}{s} - \underbrace{\frac{s}{s^2+1}}_{\text{usual method}}$$

so

$$y = 1 - \cos t - u(t-\pi) [1 - \cos(t-\pi)]$$

$$y = 1 - \cos t - u(t-\pi) [1 + \cos t]$$

$$y = \begin{cases} 1 - \cos t & t < \pi \\ -2 \cos t & t > \pi \end{cases}$$

sufficient answer,
 but some
 simplification
 is possible,