

Plotting Solutions to ODEs

Consider $z'' + 4z = g(x)$
 $z(0) = 0 = z'(0)$

where $g(x) = 0$ if $x < 5$,
 $= (x-5)/5$ if $5 \leq x < 10$,
 $= 1$ if $10 < x$.

First we make a M.file for the step function $u(x)$

```
*****
function w=u(x)
if x<0
    w=0;
else
    w=1;
end
```

Next we make a M.file for $g(x)$

```
*****
```

```
function w=g(x)
if x<5
    w=0;
elseif x<10
    w=(x-5)/5;
else
    w=1;
end
```

The operations we use for conditions on x (e.g. $x < 5$) in an if-elseif-else-end loop are $<$ (less than), \leq (less than or equal), $=$ (equal), \geq (greater than or equal), $>$ (greater than), \sim (not equal).

Using Laplace transforms we solve for z by hand:

$$z(x) = u(x-5) * ((x-5)/20 - \sin(2*(x-5))/40) - u(x-10) * ((x-10)/20 - \sin(2*(x-10))/40)$$

We make a M.file for z

```
*****
function w=z(x)
w= u(x-5)*((x-5)/20-sin(2*(x-5))/40) - u(x-10)*((x-10)/20-sin(2*(x-10))/40);
```

Notice how one M.file calls another. Now we plot $g(x)$ and $z(x)$ on the same graph

Go to the command window and type:

```
*****
```

```
fplot('g', [0,25], '--')
```

```
hold on
fplot('z', [0,25])
grid
gtext('g(x)')
gtext('z(x)')
```

We can rescale the graph so that it will be a little inside the frame. Type:

```
axis([0,25,-.1,1.1])
```

ASSIGNMENT 4:

Do problem 16 in Section 6.4 of Boyce & DiPrima