

# 9.2.1

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## LAPLACE TRANSFORMS

- **Notation** : Laplace transform of a function  $f(x)$  is denoted as  $\mathcal{L}(f(x))$ , i.e.,

$$\mathcal{L}(f(x)) = F(s) = \int_0^{\infty} f(x)e^{-sx}dx \quad (0.1)$$

- It is a linear transformation, since integration is a linear operation.
- **Laplace transform of some functions :**

$$f(x) = 0 \implies F(s) = 0 \quad (0.2)$$

$$f(x) = 1 \implies F(s) = \frac{1}{s} \quad (0.3)$$

$$f(x) = x^n \implies F(s) = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}} \quad (0.4)$$

$$f(x) = e^{ax} \implies F(s) = \frac{1}{s-a} \quad (0.5)$$

$$f(x) = \sin ax \implies F(s) = \frac{a}{s^2 + a^2} \quad (0.6)$$

$$f(x) = \cos ax \implies F(s) = \frac{s}{s^2 + a^2} \quad (0.7)$$

- **Some other useful results include :**

$$\mathcal{L}(f'(x)) = sF(s) - f(0^-) \quad (0.8)$$

$$\mathcal{L}(f''(x)) = s^2F(s) - sf(0^-) - f'(0^-) \quad (0.9)$$

- **Laplace transform of unit step function  $u(t)$  :**

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & t \geq 0 \\ 0 & t < 0 \end{cases} \quad (0.10)$$

From (0.1)

$$\mathcal{L}(u(t)) = \int_0^{\infty} u(t)e^{-st}dt \quad (0.11)$$

For all non-negative values,  $u(t) = 1$ . Hence, the integral becomes,

$$F(s) = \int_0^{\infty} (1)e^{-st}dt \quad (0.12)$$

$$F(s) = \left[ \frac{e^{-st}}{-s} \right]_0^{\infty} = \frac{1}{s} \quad (0.13)$$

• **Laplace transform of  $e^{at}u(t)$  :**

From (0.1)

$$\mathcal{L}(e^{at}u(t)) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{at}u(t)e^{-st} dt \quad (0.14)$$

$$F(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{(a-s)t} dt \quad (0.15)$$

$$F(s) = \left[ \frac{e^{(a-s)t}}{a-s} \right]_0^{\infty} = \frac{1}{s-a} \quad (0.16)$$

When  $a = 1$ ,

$$F(s) = \mathcal{L}(e^t u(t)) = \frac{1}{s-1} \quad (0.17)$$

**QUESTION:**

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ . Verify that  $y = e^x + 1$  is a solution for it, given the initial conditions  $y(0) = 2$  and  $y'(0) = 1$ .

**SOLUTION:**

Consider the differential equation,

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - \frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \quad (0.18)$$

Integrating (0.18) on both the sides, we have,

$$\int \left( \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - \frac{dy}{dx} \right) dx = \int (0) dx \quad (0.19)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - y = k \quad (0.20)$$

where,  $k$  is a constant. Applying the initial conditions, we have

$$k = 1 - 2 = -1 \quad (0.21)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = y - 1 \quad (0.22)$$

Applying Laplace transform to (0.18) on both sides, we have

$$\mathcal{L}\left(\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - \frac{dy}{dx}\right) = \mathcal{L}(0) \quad (0.23)$$

$$\mathcal{L}\left(\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}\right) - \mathcal{L}\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right) = \mathcal{L}(0) \quad (0.24)$$

$$\left(s^2 F(s) - s f(0^-) - f'(0^-)\right) - (s F(s) - f(0^-)) = 0 \quad (0.25)$$

$$F(s)(s^2 - s) - f(0^-)(s - 1) - f'(0^-) = 0 \quad (0.26)$$

$$F(s) = \frac{f(0^-)(s - 1) + f'(0^-)}{s^2 - s} \quad (0.27)$$

$$\mathcal{L}(f(x)) = \frac{f(0^-) - f'(0^-)}{s} + \frac{f'(0^-)}{s - 1} \quad (0.28)$$

Substituting the initial conditions,  $y(0^-) = 2$  and  $y'(0^-) = 1$ , we have

$$f(x) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s - 1}\right) \quad (0.29)$$

$$f(x) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s}\right) + \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s - 1}\right) \quad (0.30)$$

From, (0.13) and (0.17), it can be deduced that

$$f(x) = 1 + e^x \quad (0.31)$$

Hence, verified.

**ALGORITHM :**

$$x_0 = 0 \quad (0.32)$$

$$y_0 = 2 \quad (0.33)$$

$$h = 0.01 \quad (0.34)$$

$$x_{n+1} = x_n + h \quad (0.35)$$

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h(y') \quad (0.36)$$

From (0.22),

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h(y_n - 1) \quad (0.37)$$

which is the required difference equation.

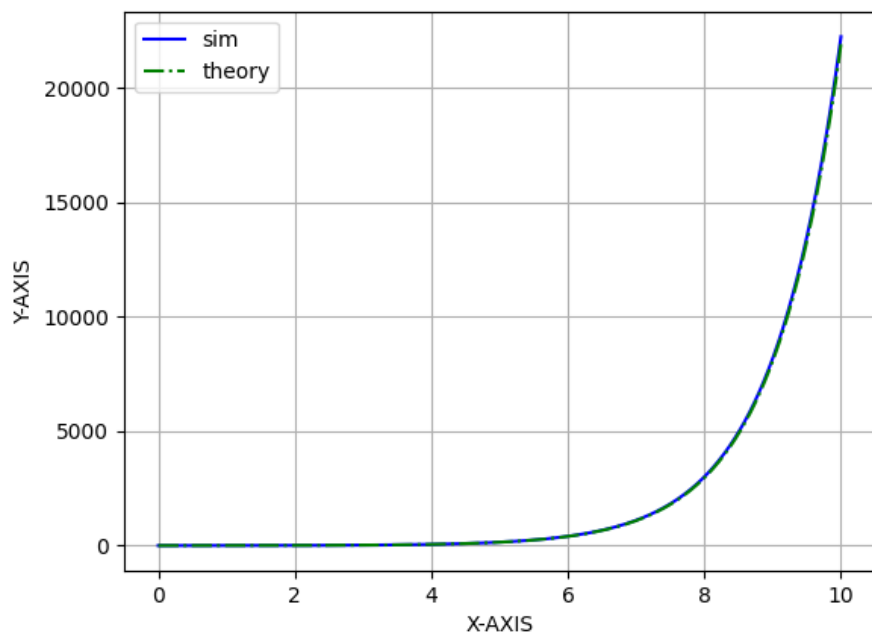


Fig. 0.1: A plot of the given question.