

TTK4225 - Systems Theory, Autumn 2020

Damiano Varagnolo



The most important Laplace transforms properties for control
people

Roadmap

- make Laplace-transform more mathematically ground
- derive some few important examples and properties

Laplace-properties we saw up to now:

(4.2.1 in Balchen's book)

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Linearity

$$\mathcal{L}\{af(t) + bg(t)\} = a\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} + b\mathcal{L}\{g(t)\} \quad (1)$$

Laplace-properties we saw up to now:

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Derivatives

$$\mathcal{L}\{\dot{x}\} = sX(s) - x(0) \quad (2)$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\ddot{x}\} = s^2X(s) - sx(0) - \dot{x}(0) \quad (3)$$

$$\vdots \quad (4)$$

Laplace-properties we saw up to now:

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Integration

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\int_0^t f(\tau)d\tau\right\} = \frac{1}{s}F(s) \quad (5)$$

Laplace-transforms we needed up to now:

$$f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\} \qquad F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$$

$$e^{at}$$

$$\frac{1}{s-a}$$

$$te^{at}$$

$$\frac{1}{(s-a)^2}$$

$$e^{at} \sin \omega t$$

$$\frac{\omega}{(s-a)^2 + \omega^2}$$

$$e^{at} \cos \omega t$$

$$\frac{s-a}{(s-a)^2 + \omega^2}$$

Laplace transforms, take 2

$$F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} := \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt \quad (6)$$

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Important (but intuitive) theorem

If $f(t)$ is defined and piecewise continuous for $t > 0$,
and there exist two constants M and k so that $|f(t)| \leq Me^{kt}$ for every $t > 0$,
then $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$ is well defined for every $s > k$

Important (but intuitive) property: linearity

Assuming that $f(t)$ and $g(t)$ are so that $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$ and $\mathcal{L}\{g(t)\}$ exists, then $\mathcal{L}\{af(t) + bg(t)\}$ exists and is s.t.

$$\mathcal{L}\{af(t) + bg(t)\} = a\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} + b\mathcal{L}\{g(t)\}$$

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Proof

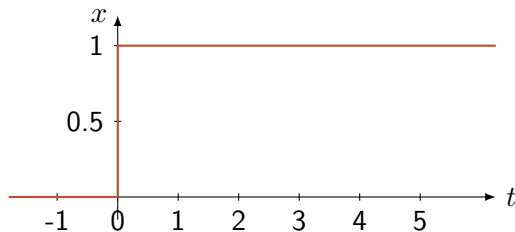
Integrals are linear, thus

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{af(t) + bg(t)\} &= \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-st} [af(t) + bg(t)] dt \\ &= a \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt + b \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-st} g(t) dt \\ &= a\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} + b\mathcal{L}\{g(t)\}\end{aligned}$$

?

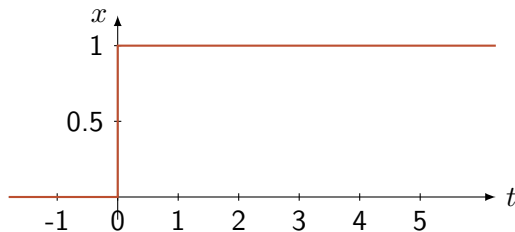
Important example: Laplace-transforming the Heaviside-function

$$H(t) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } t < 0 \\ 1 & \text{for } t > 0 \end{cases}$$



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Discussion: is $H(0)$ defined?

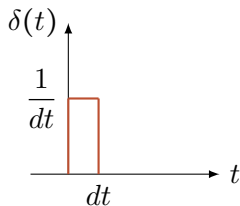
Deriving the Heaviside function from the Dirac's impulse

$$H(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t \delta(\tau) d\tau$$

with, *very loosely*,

$$\delta(t) := \begin{cases} +\infty & \text{if } t = 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

or, better, as the limit of concentrating an unitary point mass at 0:



Back to the important example: Laplace-transforming the Heaviside-function

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Discussion: what is the ROC?

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$$\int_0^{+\infty} u \dot{v} dt = [uv]_0^{+\infty} - \int_0^{+\infty} \dot{u} v dt \quad (12)$$

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(this means that often one gets a ramp response and then one has to reconstruct back the impulse response)

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$$= s^2 X(s) - sx(0) - \dot{x}(0) \quad (31)$$

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On with the important examples: Laplace-transforms of derivatives

$$\mathcal{L}\{x^{(n)}(t)\} = s^n \mathcal{L}\{x(t)\} - s^{n-1}x(0) - s^{n-2}\dot{x}(0) - \dots - x^{(n-1)}(0) \quad (33)$$

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Discussion: for which s do these theorems hold?

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Discussion: for which s do these theorems hold?

Answer: only in the intersection of the ROCs of both “original” and “translated” transforms!

Translation theorems + Laplace-transforming polynomials = **the most useful formula that you may remember**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{L}\{t^n\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}} \\ \mathcal{L}\{e^{at}f(t)\} = F(s-a) \end{array} \right. \implies \mathcal{L}\{t^n e^{at}\} = \frac{n!}{(s-a)^{n+1}} \quad (34)$$

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Discussion: what is the ROC?

Translation theorems + Laplace-transforming polynomials = **the most useful formula that you may remember**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{L}\{t^n\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}} \\ \mathcal{L}\{e^{at}f(t)\} = F(s-a) \end{array} \right. \implies \mathcal{L}\{t^n e^{at}\} = \frac{n!}{(s-a)^{n+1}} \quad (34)$$

Discussion: what is the ROC? $\operatorname{Re}(s) > a$

Laplace-transforms of oscillatory behaviors = **the second most useful formulas that you may remember**

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at} \sin \omega t\} = \frac{\omega}{(s-a)^2 + \omega^2}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at} \cos \omega t\} = \frac{s-a}{(s-a)^2 + \omega^2}$$

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$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at} \cos \omega t\} = \frac{s-a}{(s-a)^2 + \omega^2}$$

Limit cases: $a = 0$, so that

$$\mathcal{L}\{\sin \omega t\} = \frac{\omega}{s^2 + \omega^2}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\cos \omega t\} = \frac{s}{s^2 + \omega^2}$$

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The potential points of view of this course:

simply a complex number, i.e., $s = \sigma + j\omega$, that gives rise to a *complex frequency* through the complex exponential $e^{-st} = e^{-\sigma t} e^{-j\omega t}$

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Discussion: which “unit of measurement” shall s have? e^{-st} is adimensional, thus st is adimensional, thus s is “time⁻¹”

Be careful on how to use s in this course!

Typically, in all the automatic control courses the interest is not too much on the value of $F(s)$ for different s , but rather on the fact that $F(s)$ enables performing algebraic operations to solve ODEs!

?

Using Laplace transforms with generic n order systems in free evolution

In the last episodes: the “Laplace way” to find that $\dot{y} = ay \mapsto y(t) = y_0 e^{at}$,
and to do something similar for second order systems in free evolution

$$\dot{y} = ay \quad \rightarrow \quad sY - y_0 = aY \quad \rightarrow \quad Y = y_0 \frac{1}{s - a}$$

Roadmap

- the same thing, but for generic systems

A small recap

- first order homogeneous systems:

$$\dot{x} - ax = 0 \quad \mapsto \quad x(t) = x_0 e^{at} \quad (35)$$

- first order non-homogeneous systems:

$$\dot{x} - ax = bu \quad \mapsto \quad x(t) = x(0)e^{at} + \int_0^t e^{a(t-\tau)} bu(\tau) d\tau \quad (36)$$

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The problem: the convolution integral gives us headaches, and we want to use Laplace to ease things up. To understand how, step-by-step path:

- 1 start from $\dot{x} - ax = 0$
- 2 move to $\ddot{x} - a_1\dot{x} - a_2x = 0$
- 3 move to higher order
- 4 add the “ u ” part

A more detailed roadmap for this unit:

- generalize how to do partial expansions
- solve the problem: how to use Laplace transforms with generic n order systems in free evolution

?

Recalling some past results

$$\begin{aligned}\ddot{x} + \frac{f}{m}\dot{x} + \frac{k}{m}x &= 0 \\ \Downarrow \\ X(s) &= \frac{x_0\left(\frac{f}{m} + s\right) + \dot{x}_0}{s^2 + \frac{f}{m}s + \frac{k}{m}} \Downarrow \\ x(t) &= Ae^{\lambda_1 t} + Be^{\lambda_2 t} \text{ (and the other cases)}\end{aligned}$$

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Discussion: when is it that $\ddot{x} + \frac{f}{m}\dot{x} + \frac{k}{m}x = 0$ leads to $X(s) \neq 0$?

what about $\ddot{x} + \alpha_2 \ddot{x} + \alpha_1 \dot{x} + \alpha_0 x = 0$?

what about $\ddot{x} + \alpha_2 \ddot{x} + \alpha_1 \dot{x} + \alpha_0 x = 0$?

and what about higher orders?

Partial fraction decomposition

Partial fraction decomposition

case single poles: if $\frac{N(s)}{(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)\dots}$ is s.t. $a \neq b \neq c \neq \dots$ then there exist A, B, C, \dots s.t.

$$\frac{N(s)}{(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)\dots} = \frac{A}{s-a} + \frac{B}{s-b} + \frac{C}{s-c} + \dots \quad (37)$$

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case repeated poles: if some poles are repeated, then there exist $A_1, \dots, A_{na}, B_1, \dots, B_{nb}$, s.t.

$$\frac{N(s)}{(s-a)^{na}(s-b)^{nb}\dots} = \frac{A_1}{s-a} + \dots + \frac{A_{na}}{(s-a)^{na}} + \frac{B_1}{s-b} + \dots + \frac{B_{nb}}{(s-b)^{nb}} + \dots \quad (38)$$

Partial fraction decomposition

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“But how do I compute A, B , etc.?” \mapsto

`en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partial_fraction_decomposition`

(tip: start from `en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heaviside_cover-up_method`)

?

Computing the free evolution for generic n order LTI systems

$$\text{start from } x^{(n)} + \alpha_{n-1}x^{(n-1)} + \dots + \alpha_0x = 0 \quad (39)$$

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$$\text{for each } m \text{ apply } \mathcal{L}\{x^{(m)}(t)\} = s^m \mathcal{L}\{x(t)\} - s^{m-1}x(0) - s^{m-2}\dot{x}(0) - \dots - x^{(m-1)}(0) \quad (40)$$

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$$\text{obtain } X(s) = \frac{N(s)}{(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)\dots} \quad (41)$$

Computing the free evolution for generic n order LTI systems

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$$\text{obtain } X(s) = \frac{N(s)}{(s-a)(s-b)(s-c)\dots} \quad (41)$$

$$\text{do a partial fraction decomposition} \quad (42)$$

Computing the free evolution for generic n order LTI systems

Two main cases:

$$x^{(n)} + \alpha_{n-1}x^{(n-1)} + \dots + \alpha_0x = 0$$

↓

$$\text{either } X(s) = \frac{A}{s-a} + \frac{B}{s-b} + \frac{C}{s-c} + \dots$$

$$\text{or } X(s) = \frac{A_1}{s-a} + \dots + \frac{A_{na}}{(s-a)^{na}} + \frac{B_1}{s-b} + \dots + \frac{B_{nb}}{(s-b)^{nb}} + \dots$$

Computing the free evolution for generic n order LTI systems

Case single poles

$$x^{(n)} + \alpha_{n-1}x^{(n-1)} + \dots + \alpha_0x = 0$$

↓

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

Computing the free evolution for generic n order LTI systems

Case single poles

$$x^{(n)} + \alpha_{n-1}x^{(n-1)} + \dots + \alpha_0x = 0$$

\downarrow

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

Discussion: given $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s-\alpha}\right\} = e^{\alpha t}$, what is $x(t)$?

Computing the free evolution for generic n order LTI systems

Case multiple poles

$$x^{(n)} + \alpha_{n-1}x^{(n-1)} + \dots + \alpha_0x = 0$$

↓

$$X(s) = \frac{A_1}{s-a} + \dots + \frac{A_{na}}{(s-a)^{na}} + \frac{B_1}{s-b} + \dots + \frac{B_{nb}}{(s-b)^{nb}} + \dots$$

Computing the free evolution for generic n order LTI systems

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Computing the free evolution for generic n order LTI systems

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$$\text{remember: } \mathcal{L}\{t^n e^{at}\} = \frac{n!}{(s-a)^{n+1}}$$

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Discussion: given the previous transform, what is $x(t)$?

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$$\text{remember: } \mathcal{L}\{t^n e^{at}\} = \frac{n!}{(s-a)^{n+1}}$$

Discussion: given the previous transform, what is $x(t)$? Solution: a sum of terms of the type $t^n e^{at}$

Extremely important result

a LTI in free evolution behaves as a combination of terms $e^{\alpha t}$, $te^{\alpha t}$, $t^2e^{\alpha t}$, etc. for a set of different α s and powers of t , called the *modes* of the system

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a LTI in free evolution behaves as a combination of terms $e^{\alpha t}$, $te^{\alpha t}$, $t^2e^{\alpha t}$, etc. for a set of different α s and powers of t , called the *modes* of the system

Discussion: assuming that we have two modes, $e^{-0.3t}$ and $e^{-1.6t}$, so that

$$x(t) = \gamma_1 e^{-0.3t} + \gamma_2 e^{-1.6t}.$$

What determines γ_1 and γ_2 ?

comparison-of-exponentials.ipynb

?

Using Laplace transforms with second order systems in free evolution

In the last episodes: the “Laplace way” to find how LTI systems freely evolve

$$\dot{y} = ay \quad \rightarrow \quad sY - y_0 = aY \quad \rightarrow \quad Y = y_0 \frac{1}{s - a}$$

Roadmap

- the same thing, but adding the forced response term

A small recap

- first order homogeneous systems:

$$\dot{x} - ax = 0, x(0) = x_0 \quad \mapsto \quad x(t) = x_0 e^{at} \quad (43)$$

- first order non-homogeneous systems:

$$\dot{x} - ax = bu, x(0) = x_0 \quad \mapsto \quad x(t) = x(0)e^{at} + \int_0^t e^{a\tau} bu(t - \tau) d\tau \quad (44)$$

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The problem, once again: the convolution integral gives us headaches - we want to use Laplace to ease things up

Laplace-ing everything

$$\dot{x} - ax = bu, \quad x(0) = x_0 \quad (45)$$

$$\downarrow \quad (46)$$

$$sX(s) - x(0) - aX(s) = bU(s) \quad (47)$$

$$\downarrow \quad (48)$$

$$X(s) = \frac{x(0)}{s-a} + \frac{bU(s)}{s-a} \quad (49)$$

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$$x(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{x(0)}{s-a} + \frac{bU(s)}{s-a} \right\} \quad (51)$$

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$$(54)$$

if $u(t)$ has a rational Laplace transform, then

$$x(t) = \sum \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{\alpha}{(s-a)^\beta} \right\}$$

Example 1

$$\dot{x} + x = 0, \quad x(0) = 2 \quad \Longrightarrow \quad x(t > 0) = ?$$

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$$sX(s) - x(0) + X(s) = 0$$

↓

$$(s + 1)X(s) = x(0)$$

↓

$$X(s) = \frac{x(0)}{(s + 1)} = \frac{2}{s - (-1)}$$

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$$X(s) = \frac{x(0)}{(s + 1)} = \frac{2}{s - (-1)}$$

$$x(t) = 2e^{-t}$$

Discussion: what is the time constant in this case?

Example 2

Discussion: $\mathcal{L}\{H(t)\}=?$

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Discussion: $\mathcal{L}\{H(t)\} = ?$ Solution: $\frac{1}{s}$

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$$sX(s) - x(0) + X(s) = \frac{1}{s}$$

↓

$$(s + 1)X(s) = \frac{1}{s} + 2$$

↓

$$X(s) = \frac{2}{s + 1} + \frac{1}{s(1 + s)}$$

Example 2, continued

$$X(s) = \frac{2}{s+1} + \frac{1}{s(1+s)}$$

$$\frac{1}{s(s+1)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s+1}$$

Example 2, continued

$$X(s) = \frac{2}{s+1} + \frac{1}{s(1+s)}$$

$$\frac{1}{s(s+1)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s+1} = \frac{A(s+1) + Bs}{s(s+1)} \quad (55)$$

Example 2, continued

$$X(s) = \frac{2}{s+1} + \frac{1}{s(1+s)}$$

$$\frac{1}{s(s+1)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s+1} = \frac{A(s+1) + Bs}{s(s+1)} \quad (55)$$

$$s: As + Bs = 0 \implies A = -B$$

$$1: A = 1 \implies B = -1$$

Example 2, continued

$$X(s) = \frac{2}{s+1} + \frac{1}{s(1+s)}$$

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$$X(s) = \frac{2}{s+1} + \frac{1}{s(s+1)} = \frac{2}{s+1} + \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s+1} = \frac{1}{s+1} + \frac{1}{s} \quad (56)$$

Example 2, continued

$$X(s) = \frac{2}{s+1} + \frac{1}{s(1+s)}$$

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$$x(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{X(s)\} = e^{-t} + \mu(t) \quad (57)$$

Example 3

$$\dot{x} + 4x = 3e^{-4t}, \quad x(0) = 1 \quad \Longrightarrow \quad x(t > 0) = ?$$

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$$sX(s) - 1 + 4X(s) = \frac{3}{s+4} \quad (58)$$

$$\downarrow \quad (59)$$

$$X(s) = \frac{1}{s+4} + \frac{3}{(s+4)^2} \quad (60)$$

$$(61)$$

Example 3

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$$\downarrow \quad (59)$$

$$X(s) = \frac{1}{s+4} + \frac{3}{(s+4)^2} \quad (60)$$

$$(61)$$

Remember: $\mathcal{L}\{t^n e^{at}\} = \frac{n!}{(s-a)^{n+1}}$, thus

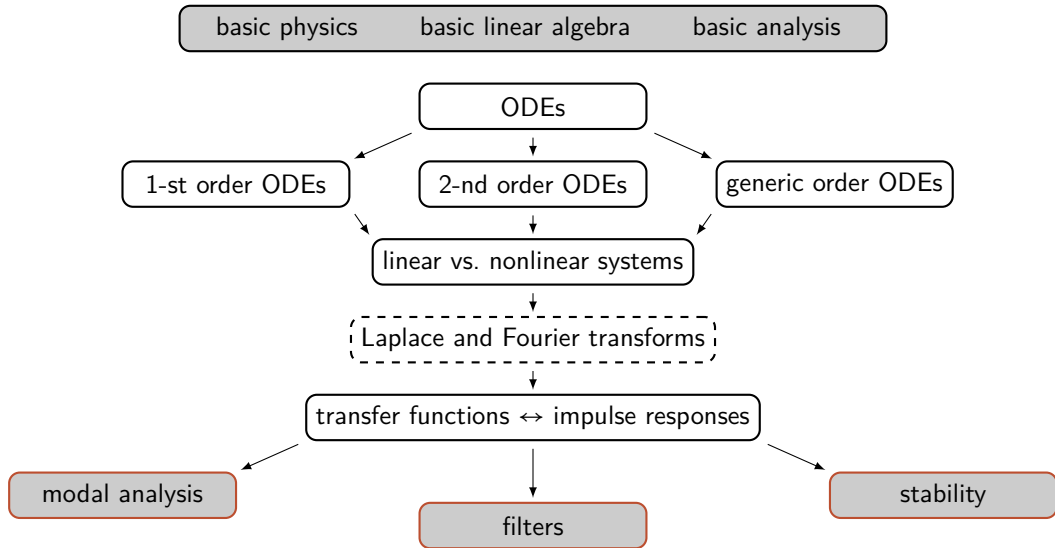
$$x(t) = e^{-4t} + 3te^{-4t} \quad (62)$$

?

Transfer functions

Discussion: what did Laplace transforms enable us to do?

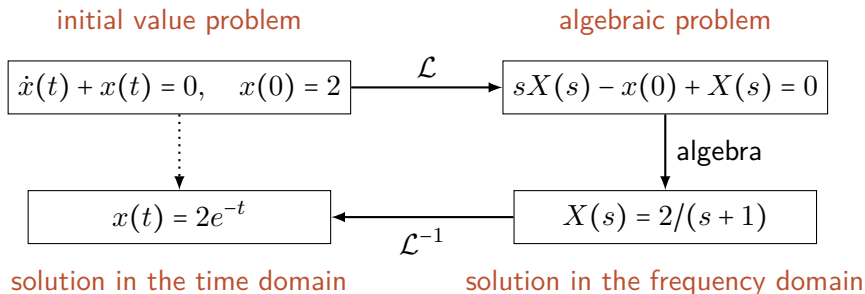
Summary / Roadmap of TTK4225



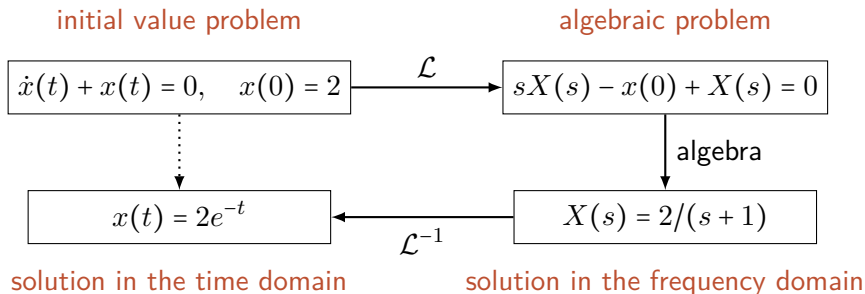
Roadmap

- definition of transfer function
- connections with impulse responses
- transfer functions of generic ARMA models
- examples

Laplace transforms: not only a way of solving dynamics



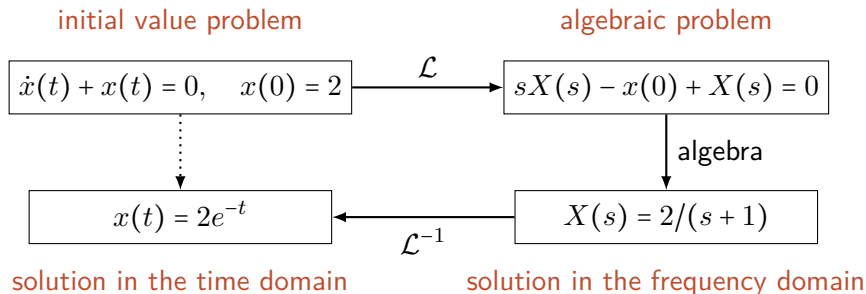
Laplace transforms: not only a way of solving dynamics



This unit = transfer functions

i.e., complete description of the behavior of a LTI system in terms of a Laplace-object

Laplace transforms: not only a way of solving dynamics

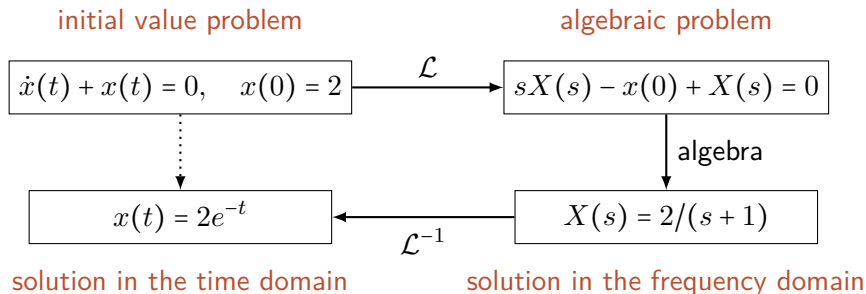


This unit = transfer functions

i.e., complete description of the behavior of a LTI system in terms of a Laplace-object

Discussion: which other object was a complete description of a LTI system?

Laplace transforms: not only a way of solving dynamics



This unit = transfer functions

i.e., complete description of the behavior of a LTI system in terms of a Laplace-object

Discussion: which other object was a complete description of a LTI system? *impulse responses and transfer functions need to be connected somehow (and now we will see how)*

Towards the formal definition of transfer functions

$$\ddot{x} = a_1 \dot{x} + a_0 x = u(t), \quad x(0) = x_0, \quad \dot{x}(0) = x_1$$

↓

$$s^2 X - sx(0) - \dot{x}(0) = a_1 (sX - x(0)) + a_0 X + U$$

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$$X(s) = H(s)M(s) + H(s)U(s)$$

Towards the formal definition of transfer functions

What are the roles of the objects here?

$$X(s) = H(s)M(s) + H(s)U(s)$$

- $H(s)$ = response of the system, the actual *transfer function*
- $M(s)$ = effect of the initial conditions, its combination with $H(s)$ gives the free evolution
- $U(s)$ = input, its combination with $H(s)$ gives the forced response

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this is another viewpoint that confirms the superposition of the effects

Connecting transfer functions with impulse responses

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Discussion: what about $M(s) = 0$, $U(s) = 1$? Answer: $X(s) = H(s)$

but $U(s) = 1$ implies u a Dirac delta, so $X(s) = H(s)$
must be the Laplace transform of the impulse response $h(t)$

$$X(s) = H(s)M(s) + H(s)U(s)$$

$$x(t) = x_0 h(t) + h * u(t)$$

remember: “multiplication in frequency = convolution in time”

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implication: knowing $H(s)$ means knowing everything about the system

Are there alternative ways to compute $H(s)$?

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and, if we choose $u(t) = \delta(t)$ so that $U(s) = 1$,

$$\implies H(s) = X(s)$$

Computing $H(s)$ in the generic ARMA case

$$x^{(n)} = a_{n-1}x^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_0x + b_mu^{(m)} + \dots + b_0u$$

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Thus, since $H(s) = X(s)$,

$$H = \frac{b_ms^m + \dots + b_0}{s^n - a_{n-1}s^{n-1} - \dots - a_0}$$

How is knowing $H(s)$ simplify our life w.r.t. knowing $h(t)$?

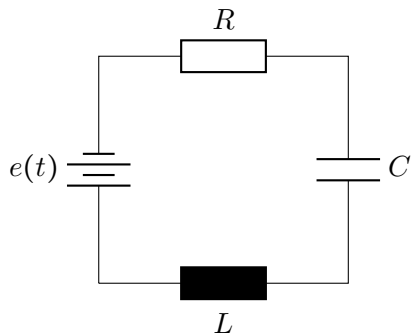
$$H = \frac{b_m s^m + \dots + b_1 s + b_0}{s^n - a_{n-1} s^{n-1} - \dots a_1 s - a_0}$$

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$$H = \frac{b_m s^m + \dots + b_1 s + b_0}{s^n - a_{n-1} s^{n-1} - \dots a_1 s - a_0}$$

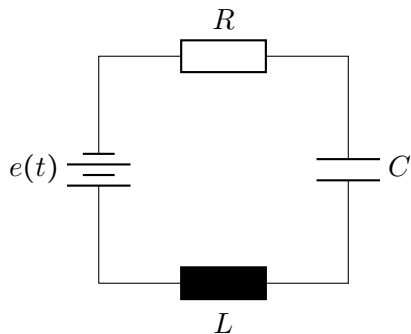
- simpler analysis of the stability properties
- simpler analysis of the natural modes of the system
(*and thus its oscillatory behaviors*)
- simpler analysis of the time constants of the system

Example: RCL circuits



$$L\ddot{x} + R\dot{x} + \frac{1}{C}x = \dot{e}(t), \quad e(t) = \delta(t) \implies H(s) = X(s), \quad E(s) = 1 \quad (63)$$

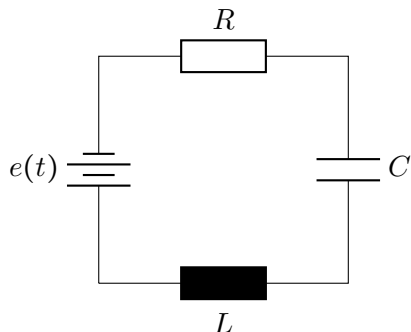
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Example: RCL circuits



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$$(Ls^2 + Rs + 1/C)X(s) = s \quad \mapsto \quad H(s) = \frac{s}{20s^2 + 160s + 500} \quad (64)$$

Connecting transfer functions and impulse responses, take 2

$$H(s) = \frac{s}{20s^2 + 160s + 500} = \frac{1}{20} \frac{s}{s^2 + 8s + 25}$$

Discussion: how do we find the impulse response $h(t)$?

Connecting transfer functions and impulse responses, take 2

$$H(s) = \frac{s}{20s^2 + 160s + 500} = \frac{1}{20} \frac{s}{s^2 + 8s + 25}$$

Discussion: how do we find the impulse response $h(t)$? Solution: inverse-transform $H(s)$ using a partial fraction expansion \implies we need to understand how the denominator looks like!

$$\begin{aligned} s^2 + 8s + 25 = 0 &\implies s^2 + 8s = -25 \\ s^2 + 2 \cdot 4s &= -25 \\ s^2 + 2 \cdot 4s + 4^2 &= -25 + 4^2 \\ \mapsto (s + 4)^2 + 9 &= 0 \end{aligned} \tag{65}$$

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Discussion: may the impulse response be an oscillatory one?

Laplace-transforms of oscillatory behaviors = **the second most useful formulas that you may remember**

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at} \sin \omega t\} = \frac{\omega}{(s-a)^2 + \omega^2}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at} \cos \omega t\} = \frac{s-a}{(s-a)^2 + \omega^2}$$

with limit case $a = 0$, so that

$$\mathcal{L}\{\sin \omega t\} = \frac{\omega}{s^2 + \omega^2}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\cos \omega t\} = \frac{s}{s^2 + \omega^2}$$

Continuing the example above

$$H(s) = \frac{1}{20} \frac{s}{s^2 + 8s + 25} = \frac{1}{20} \frac{(s + 4) - 4}{(s + 4)^2 + 9}$$

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$$H(s) = \frac{1}{20} \frac{s}{s^2 + 8s + 25} = \frac{1}{20} \frac{(s + 4) - 4}{(s + 4)^2 + 9}$$

$$h(t) = \frac{1}{20} e^{-4t} \cos 3t - \frac{4}{20} e^{-4t} \sin 3t$$

?

Representing rational transfer functions through gain, zeros, and poles

Roadmap

- checking that not all the transfer functions are rational
- decomposition of rational transfer functions into gain, zeros, and poles

Computing transfer functions from differential equations

$$\ddot{y} = a_1\dot{y} + a_2y + b_0\ddot{u} + b_1\dot{u} + b_2u \quad \text{initial conditions} = 0$$

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$$\mathcal{L} \{ \ddot{y} - a_1 \dot{y} - a_2 y \} = \mathcal{L} \{ b_0 \ddot{u} + b_1 \dot{u} + b_2 u \}$$

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↓

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$$s^2Y(s) - a_1sY(s) - a_2Y(s) = b_0s^2U(s) + b_1sU(s) + b_2U(s)$$

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$$Y(s) = \frac{b_0s^2 + b_1s + b_2}{s^2 - a_1s - a_2}U(s)$$

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↓

$$Y(s) = \frac{b_0s^2 + b_1s + b_2}{s^2 - a_1s - a_2}U(s)$$

problem: rational means finite polynomials; but not all the TFs are rational!

Delays

Remember: time shifting in Laplace transforms:

$$\mathcal{L}\{y(t-\tau)H(t-\tau)\} = e^{-\tau s}Y(s)$$

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example: $\mathcal{L}\{\delta t - \tau\} = ?$ Solution: $e^{-\tau s}$

$$h(t) \quad \mapsto \quad h(t - \tau)$$

$$H(s) \quad \mapsto \quad e^{-\tau s} H(s) = \frac{1}{e^{\tau s}} H(s)$$

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Problem: $e^{\tau s} = \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} \frac{(\tau s)^n}{n!} :$

$$\frac{b_0 s^2 + b_1 s + b_2}{e^{\tau s} (s^2 - a_1 s - a_2)}$$

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$$\frac{b_0 s^2 + b_1 s + b_2}{e^{\tau s} (s^2 - a_1 s - a_2)}$$

Discussion: if $H(s)$ is rational, is $e^{-\tau s} H(s)$ rational too?

Partially solving the issue: Padé approximations

definition of Padé approximant: the “best” approximation of a function by a rational function of given order (*thus a concept applicable to any function*)

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explicit formulas a bit boring:

[https://mathoverflow.net/questions/41226/
pade-approximant-to-exponential-function](https://mathoverflow.net/questions/41226/pade-approximant-to-exponential-function)

ZPK decompositions

Assumption:

$$H(s) = \frac{b_0 s^m + b_1 s^{m-1} + \dots + b_m}{s^n - a_1 s^{n-1} - \dots - a_n}$$

ZPK decompositions

Assumption:

$$H(s) = \frac{b_0 s^m + b_1 s^{m-1} + \dots + b_m}{s^n - a_1 s^{n-1} - \dots - a_n}$$

then

$$H(s) = K \frac{\prod_{i=1}^m (s - z_i)}{\prod_{j=1}^n (s - p_j)}$$

with

- z_1, \dots, z_m =: zeros of $H(s)$
- p_1, \dots, p_n =: poles of $H(s)$
- K =: gain of $H(s)$

How do we find ZPK representations?

I.e., how do we go from $\frac{b_0 s^m + b_1 s^{m-1} + \dots + b_m}{s^n - a_1 s^{n-1} - \dots - a_n}$ to $K \frac{\prod_{i=1}^m (s - z_i)}{\prod_{j=1}^n (s - p_j)}$?

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I.e., how do we go from $\frac{b_0 s^m + b_1 s^{m-1} + \dots + b_m}{s^n - a_1 s^{n-1} - \dots - a_n}$ to $K \frac{\prod_{i=1}^m (s - z_i)}{\prod_{j=1}^n (s - p_j)}$? *Problem:* we

know from the fundamental theorem of algebra¹ that that z_i and p_j exist; but how to find them, if we also know from Abel's impossibility theorem that there is no solution in radicals to general polynomial equations of degree five or higher with *arbitrary* coefficients?

¹Every non-zero, single-variable, degree n polynomial with complex coefficients has, counted with multiplicity, exactly n complex roots.

Solution = rely on numerical aids

Solving the “polynomial roots” problem:

Matlab: `r = roots(p)`

Python: `r = numpy.roots(p)`

Solution = rely on numerical aids

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Finding ZPK representations:

Matlab: `zpksys = zpk(sys)`

Python: `zkpsys = tf2zpk(b, a)` (*requires the “python-control” package*)

Ok, and so what?

$$H(s) = K \frac{\prod_{i=1}^m (s - z_i)}{\prod_{j=1}^n (s - p_j)}$$

Spoiler alert:

- p_j 's = poles = natural modes of the system
- z_i 's = zeros = complex exponentials that are killed by $H(s)$, but also factors modulating the amplitudes of the modes
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in other words, ZPK representations are interpretable

?

What are the poles of a system?

Roadmap

- partial fraction expansions
- differences between single and multiple poles
- examples

Physical meaning of a pole (*partial fraction expansion*)

$$\begin{aligned} H(s) = K \frac{\prod (s - z_i)}{\prod (s - p_j)} = & \frac{\kappa_{1,1}}{s - p_1} + \frac{\kappa_{1,2}}{(s - p_1)^2} + \frac{\kappa_{1,3}}{(s - p_1)^3} + \dots \\ & + \frac{\kappa_{2,1}}{s - p_2} + \frac{\kappa_{2,2}}{(s - p_2)^2} + \dots \\ & + \dots \end{aligned}$$

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Thanks to the linearity of \mathcal{L} and \mathcal{L}^{-1} ,

$$\begin{aligned} H(s) &= H_{1,1}(s) + H_{1,2}(s) + \dots \\ &\quad \Updownarrow \\ h(t) &= h_{1,1}(t) + h_{1,2}(t) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

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Thanks to the linearity of \mathcal{L} and \mathcal{L}^{-1} ,

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In words, $h(t)$ = sum of *all* the impulse responses relative to the various poles in the partial fraction expansion

The cover-up method

if $H(s) = K \frac{\prod_i (s - z_i)}{\prod_j (s - p_j)}$ does not have multiple poles then

$$H(s) = \sum_j \frac{\kappa_j}{(s - p_j)}$$

with

$$\kappa_j = (s - p_j) H(s) \Big|_{s=p_j}$$

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$$\kappa_j = (s - p_j) H(s) \Big|_{s=p_j}$$

Example:

$$H(s) = \frac{3}{(s+1)(s+2)} \implies h(t) = \dots?$$

Physical meaning of a pole - What is $h_{j,\beta}(t)$?

$$H(s) = H_{1,1}(s) + H_{1,2}(s) + \dots$$



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simple root:

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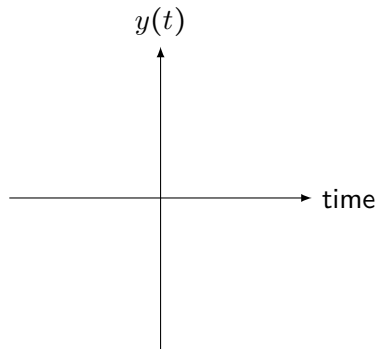
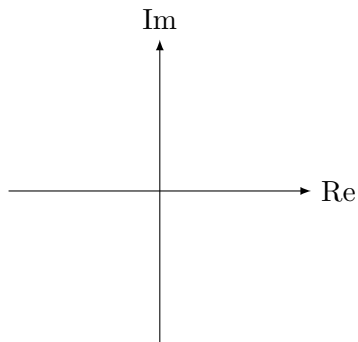
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multiple root:

$$H_{j,\beta}(s) = \frac{\kappa_{j,\beta}}{(s - p_j)^\beta} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad h_{j,\beta}(t) \propto t^{\beta-1} e^{p_j t}$$

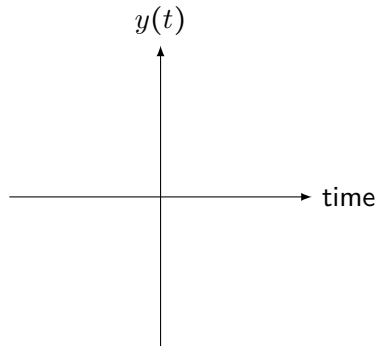
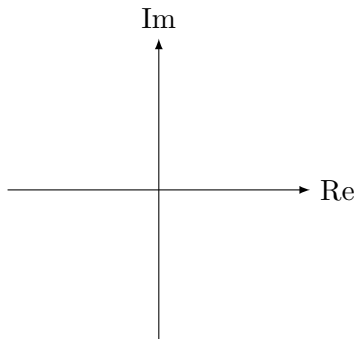
What is $h_{j,1}(t)$? (i.e., when the roots are simple)

$$\text{if } H(s) = K \frac{\prod (s - z_i)}{\prod (s - p_j)} = \sum_j \frac{\kappa_{j,1}}{s - p_j} \quad \text{then} \quad \frac{\kappa_{j,1}}{s - p_j} \mapsto h_{j,1}(t) \propto e^{p_j t}$$



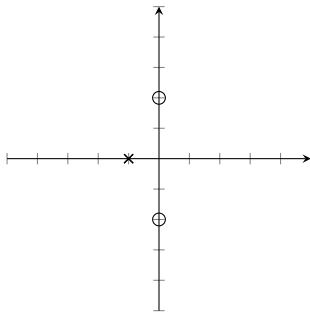
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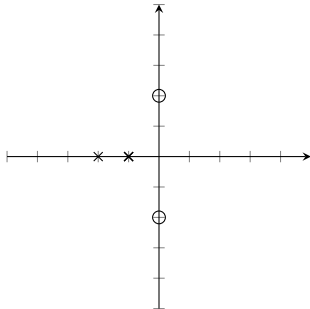
Physical meaning of a pole - Example

$$H(s) = K \frac{s^2 + 4}{s^3 + 3s^2 + 3s + 1} = K \frac{(s + 2j)(s - 2j)}{(s + 1)^3} \quad \Rightarrow \quad h(t) = \kappa_1 e^{-t} + \kappa_2 t e^{-t} + \kappa_3 t^2 e^{-t}$$



Physical meaning of a pole - Example

$$H(s) = K \frac{(s + 2j)(s - 2j)}{(s + 1)^3(s + 2)} \implies h(t) = \dots??$$



?

What are the zeros of a system?

Roadmap

- generic definition
- definition for the LTI systems case
- examples of the effects of choosing different zeros

Definition (Zero of a function)

$$z_i = \text{zero of } H(\cdot) \text{ if } H(z_i) = 0$$

Physical meaning of a zero of a transfer function

$$H \text{ LTI: } \quad u(t) = e^{\bar{s}t} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad y(t) = H(\bar{s})e^{\bar{s}t}$$

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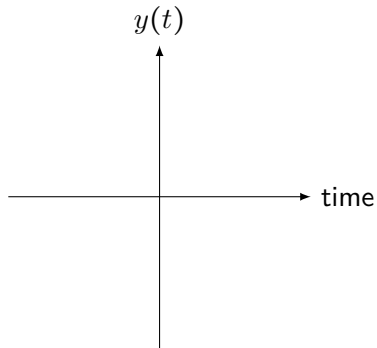
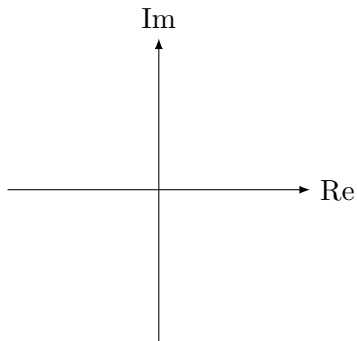
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What is $e^{z_i t}$? Euler's formulae ($t \in \mathbb{R}$, $z_i \in \mathbb{C}$):

- $e^{z_i t} = e^{(\sigma + j\omega)t} = e^{\sigma t} \left(\cos(\omega t) + j \sin(\omega t) \right)$
- $\cos(\omega t) = \frac{1}{2} \left(e^{j\omega t} + e^{-j\omega t} \right)$

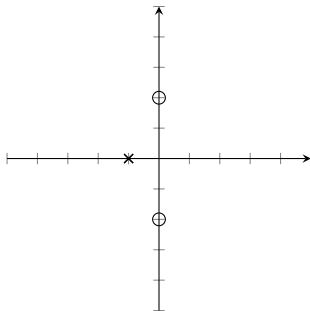
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Physical meaning of a zero - Example

$$H(s) = K \frac{s^2 + 4}{s^3 + 3s^2 + 3s + 1} = K \frac{(s + 2j)(s - 2j)}{(s + 1)^3}$$



$$\text{Thus } u(t) = 2 \cos(2t) = \left(e^{j2t} + e^{-j2t} \right) \implies y(t) = H(2j)e^{2jt} + H(-2j)e^{-2jt} = 0$$

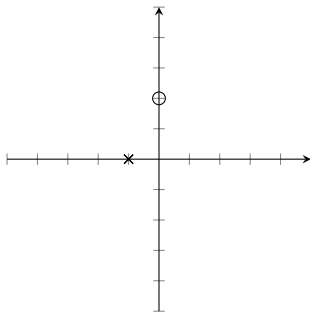
Discussion

Is it that

$$H(s) = K \frac{(s - 2j)}{(s + 1)^3}$$

implies

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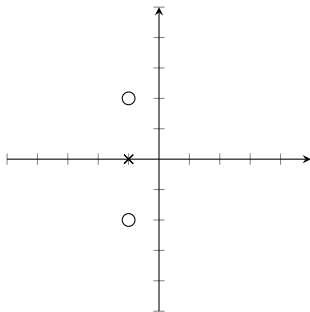
Discussion

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$$H(s) = K \frac{(s + 1 - 2j)(s + 1 + 2j)}{(s + 1)^3}$$

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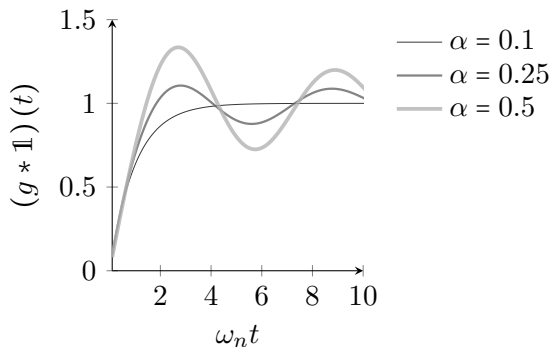
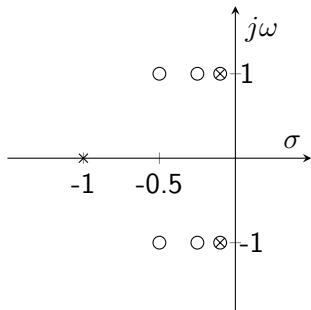


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?

What is the gain of a system?

Roadmap

- definition from an intuitive perspective
- final value theorem
- examples

Gain, in generic terms

Concept, intuitively:

- I use an unitary step as the input
- I check what is the output at the end of the times

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Discussion: does this hold also for nonlinear systems?

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Tool to be used: *final value theorem* (but remember the caveats on its validity²).

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Discussion: what is the gain associated to $\frac{10}{s+20}$?

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