

# Laplace Transform Lab: Solving ODEs using Laplace Transform in MATLAB

This lab will teach you to solve ODEs using a built in MATLAB Laplace transform function `laplace`.

There are five (5) exercises in this lab that are to be handed in. Write your solutions in a separate file, including appropriate descriptions in each step.

Include your name and student number in the submitted file.

## Student Information

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## Using symbolic variables to define functions

In this exercise we will use symbolic variables and functions.

```
%syms t s x y

%f = cos(t)
%h = exp(2*x)
```

## Laplace transform and its inverse

```
% The routine |laplace| computes the Laplace transform of a function

%F=laplace(f)
```

By default it uses the variable `s` for the Laplace transform But we can specify which variable we want:

```
%H=laplace(h)
%laplace(h,y)

% Observe that the results are identical: one in the variable |s| and the
% other in the variable |y|
```

We can also specify which variable to use to compute the Laplace transform:

```
%j = exp(x*t)
%laplace(j)
%laplace(j,x,s)

% By default, MATLAB assumes that the Laplace transform is to be computed
% using the variable |t|, unless we specify that we should use the variable
% |x|
```

We can also use inline functions with `laplace`. When using inline functions, we always have to specify the variable of the function.

```
%l = @(t) t^2+t+1
%laplace(l(t))
```

MATLAB also has the routine `ilaplace` to compute the inverse Laplace transform

```
%ilaplace(F)
%ilaplace(H)
%ilaplace(laplace(f))
```

If `laplace` cannot compute the Laplace transform, it returns an unevaluated call.

```
%g = 1/sqrt(t^2+1)
%G = laplace(g)
```

But MATLAB "knows" that it is supposed to be a Laplace transform of a function. So if we compute the inverse Laplace transform, we obtain the original function

```
%ilaplace(G)
```

The Laplace transform of a function is related to the Laplace transform of its derivative:

```
%syms g(t)
%laplace(diff(g,t),t,s)
```

## Exercise 1

Objective: Compute the Laplace transform and use it to show that MATLAB 'knows' some of its properties.

Details:

(a) Define the function  $f(t) = \exp(2t) \cdot t^3$ , and compute its Laplace transform  $F(s)$ . (b) Find a function  $f(t)$  such that its Laplace transform is  $(s - 1)(s - 2)/(s(s + 2)(s - 3))$  (c) Show that MATLAB 'knows' that if  $F(s)$  is the Laplace transform of  $f(t)$ , then the Laplace transform of  $\exp(at)f(t)$  is  $F(s-a)$

(in your answer, explain part (c) using comments).

```
% a:
syms t s x; % t for f(t), s for F(s),
f = exp(2*t)*t^3;
F = laplace(f);
display(F); % which is F(s)
```

F =  
$$\frac{6}{(s-2)^4}$$

```
% b:
g = ((s - 1)*(s - 2))/(s*(s + 2)*(s - 3));
G = ilaplace(g);
display(G);
```

$$G = \frac{6e^{-2t}}{5} + \frac{2e^{3t}}{15} - \frac{1}{3}$$

```
% in this case G is f(t)
% c:
syms f(t) a g(t) t;
g(t) = exp(a*t)*f(t);

hi = laplace(f(t));
hi_2 = laplace(g(t));
display(hi);
```

```
hi = laplace(f(t), t, s)
```

```
display(hi_2);
```

```
hi_2 = laplace(f(t), t, s - a)
```

```
% this demonstrates that Matlab knows that if F(s) is the Laplace transform
% of f(t), then the Laplace transform of exp(at)f(t) is F(s-a)
% This is shown in part C that I have laplace(f(t),t,s) for hi which is
% laplace of f(t)), and hi_2 for laplace(f(t),t,s-a) which is laplace of
% exp(a*t)*f(t).
% laplace(f(t), t, s) and laplace(f(t), t, s - a) are output for hi and
% hi_2 respectively.
% This demonstrates that whenever f(t) is multiplied by exp(a*t) (which is
% g(t) in this case, this will shift by -a, as you can see from the output.
% this is property of laplace, therefore, MAT knows it.
%
% output:
% hi = laplace(f(t), t, s)
% laplace(f(t), t, s - a)
```

Observe that MATLAB splits the rational function automatically when solving the inverse Laplace transform.

## Heaviside and Dirac functions

These two functions are builtin to MATLAB: heaviside is the Heaviside function  $u_0(t)$  at 0

To define  $u_2(t)$ , we need to write

```
%f=heaviside(t-2)
```

```

%ezplot(f,[-1,5])

% The Dirac delta function (at |0|) is also defined with the routine |dirac|

%g = dirac(t-3)

% MATLAB "knows" how to compute the Laplace transform of these functions

%laplace(f)
%laplace(g)

```

## Exercise 2

Objective: Find a formula comparing the Laplace transform of a translation of  $f(t)$  by  $t-a$  with the Laplace transform of  $f(t)$

Details:

- Give a value to  $a$
- Let  $G(s)$  be the Laplace transform of  $g(t)=u_a(t)f(t-a)$  and  $F(s)$  is the Laplace transform of  $f(t)$ , then find a formula relating  $G(s)$  and  $F(s)$

```

close all; clear; clc;
syms a s t;
% give a vlue to a which is 2 arbitrary.
% a = 1;
% a = 2;
% a = 3;
% a = 4;
% a = 5;
a = 5;
% define heavisidefunction
u_a(t) = heaviside(t-a);
%let
f= @(t) exp(2*t)*t^3; %(from exercise 1)

% Now define g(t)

g(t) = u_a(t) * f(t-a);
G(s) = laplace(g, t, s);

% laplace of f
F = laplace(f(t), t, s);
% now time to display@!
display(F);

```

$$F = \frac{6}{(s-2)^4}$$

```
display(G);
```

$$G(s) = \frac{6e^{-5s}}{(s-2)^4}$$

```
% F = 6/(s - 2)^4 and G(s) = (6*exp((-5*s)))/(s - 2)^4.
% Whenever changing the "a" value manually, this changes the
% (6*exp((-a*s)))/(s - 2)^4. a in output of G(s).

% Equation: G(s) = F(s)*exp(-a*s)

% in exercise 1, we saw that "% This demonstrates that whenever f(t) is multiplied
% by exp(a*t) (which is
% g(t) in this case, this will shift by -a, as you can see from the output.
% this is property of laplace."

% in exercise 2, this is done other way around. this time we multiply step
% function with f(t-a) which is shifted by a, then we get the value that
% multiplied by exp(a*t).

% As in exercises 1 and exercise 2 is proved in both other ways,
% therefore, the equation is proved % Equation: G(s) = F(s)*exp(-a*s).
```

In your answer, explain the 'proof' using comments.

## Solving IVPs using Laplace transforms

Consider the following IVP,  $y'' - 3y = 5t$  with the initial conditions  $y(0)=1$  and  $y'(0)=2$ . We can use MATLAB to solve this problem using Laplace transforms:

```
% First we define the unknown function and its variable and the Laplace
% transform of the unknown

%syms y(t) t Y s;

% Then we define the ODE

%ODE=diff(y(t),t,2)-3*y(t)-5*t == 0;

% Now we compute the Laplace transform of the ODE.

%L_ODE = laplace(ODE);

% Use the initial conditions
```

```

%L_ODE=subs(L_ODE,y(0),1);
%L_ODE=subs(L_ODE,subs(diff(y(t), t), t, 0),2);

% We then need to factor out the Laplace transform of |y(t)|

%L_ODE = subs(L_ODE,laplace(y(t), t, s), Y);
%Y=solve(L_ODE,Y);

% We now need to use the inverse Laplace transform to obtain the solution
% to the original IVP

%y = ilaplace(Y);

% We can plot the solution

%ezplot(y,[0,20]);

% We can check that this is indeed the solution

%diff(y,t,2)-3*y;

```

### Exercise 3

Objective: Solve an IVP using the Laplace transform

Details: Explain your steps using comments

- Solve the IVP
- $y''' + 2y'' + y' + 2y = -\cos(t)$
- $y(0)=0$ ,  $y'(0)=0$ , and  $y''(0)=0$
- for  $t$  in  $[0, 10\pi]$
- Is there an initial condition for which  $y$  remains bounded as  $t$  goes to infinity? If so, find it.

```

% First we define the unknown function and its variable and the Laplace
% tranform of the unknown
% y'''-3y = 5t with the initial conditions y(0)=1 and y'(0)=2

syms y(t) t Y s;

% in this problem: y''' + 2y'' + y' + 2*y + cos(t) == 0
% initial condition y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0. y''(0) = 0

% Then we define the ODE
% ODE = diff(y(t),t,2)-3*y(t)-5*t == 0
ODE = diff(y(t), t, 3) + 2*diff(y(t), t, 2) + diff(y(t), 1) + 2*y(t) + cos(t) == 0;
% Now we compute the Laplace transform of the ODE.

L_ODE = laplace(ODE);

```

```

% Use the initial conditions
L_ODE=subs(L_ODE,y(0),0); % for  $y(0) = 0$ 
L_ODE=subs(L_ODE,subs(diff(y(t), t), t, 0),0); % for  $y'(0) = 0$ 
L_ODE=subs(L_ODE,subs(diff(y(t), t, t), t, 0),0); % for  $y''(0) = 0$ 

% We then need to factor out the Laplace transform of  $|y(t)|$ 
L_ODE = subs(L_ODE,laplace(y(t), t, s), Y);
Y=solve(L_ODE,Y);

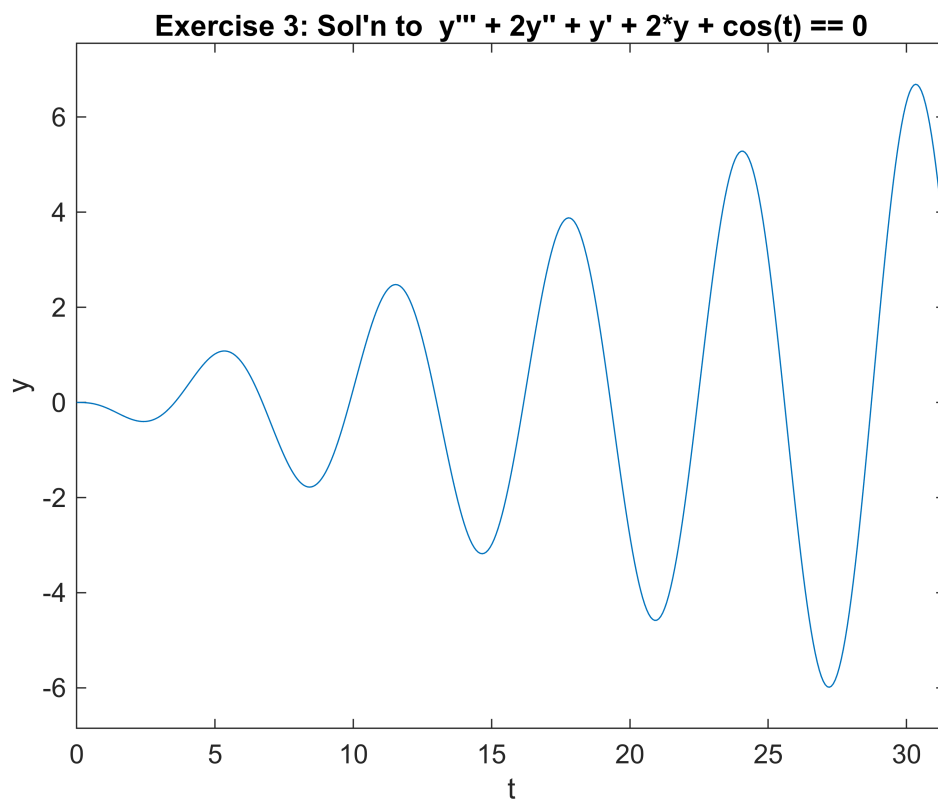
% We now need to use the inverse Laplace transform to obtain the solution
% to the original IVP

y = ilaplace(Y);

% We can plot the solution
ezplot(y,[0,10*pi]);

title("Exercise 3: Sol'n to  $y''' + 2y'' + y' + 2*y + \cos(t) == 0$ ");
xlabel("t");
ylabel("y");

```



```

% Is there an initial condition for which y remains bounded as t goes to infinity?
% If so, find it.
% There is no initial condition that when t goes to infinity while y
% remains bounded. This can be seen from the plotted graph, as t goes
% infinity, y is oscillating and growing. Therefore, there is no initial

```

```
% condition for y remains bounded as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . When the function is  
% oscillating and growing, this won't bound ever.
```

## Exercise 4

Objective: Solve an IVP using the Laplace transform

Details:

- Define
- $g(t) = 3$  if  $0 < t < 2$
- $g(t) = t+1$  if  $2 < t < 5$
- $g(t) = 5$  if  $t > 5$
- Solve the IVP
- $y'' + 2y' + 5y = g(t)$
- $y(0) = 2$  and  $y'(0) = 1$
- Plot the solution for  $t$  in  $[0, 12]$  and  $y$  in  $[0, 2.25]$ .

In your answer, explain your steps using comments.

```
% assume "explain your steps using comments" means add comments in the  
% code to explain each step  
  
syms y(t) t Y s;  
  
hi_0(t) = heaviside(t);  
hi_1(t) = heaviside(t-2);  
hi_2(t) = heaviside(t-5); % These are based on the range for the heaviside  
functions for making one huge g(t)  
  
% now define the func based on the range and heaviside function  
g(t) = 3*hi_0(t) + (t-2)*hi_1(t) + (-t+4)*hi_2(t);  
  
% ODE is defined as last time.  
ODE = diff(y(t), t, 2) + 2*diff(y(t), t) + 5*y(t) - g(t) == 0;  
  
% Now we compute the Laplace transform of the ODE.  
L_ODE = laplace(ODE);  
  
% Use the initial conditions  
L_ODE = subs(L_ODE, y(0), 2); % for  $y(0) = 2$   
L_ODE = subs(L_ODE, subs(diff(y(t), t), t, 0), 1); % for  $y'(0) = 1$   
% We then need to factor out the Laplace transform of  $|y(t)|$   
  
L_ODE = subs(L_ODE, laplace(y(t), t, s), Y);  
Y = solve(L_ODE, Y);  
  
% We now need to use the inverse Laplace transform to obtain the solution  
% to the original IVP
```



```

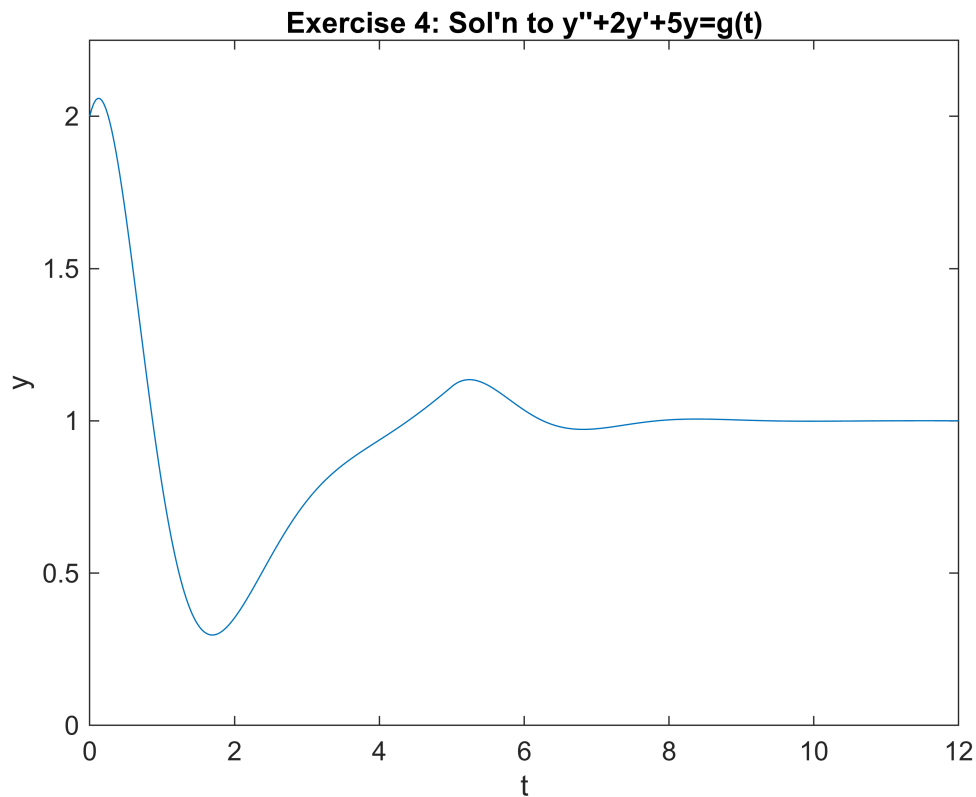
y = ilaplace(Y);

% We can plot the solution

ezplot(y,[0,12,0,2.25]);

title("Exercise 4: Sol'n to  $y''+2y'+5y=g(t)$ ");
xlabel("t");
ylabel("y");

```



```

simplify(diff(y,t,2)+2*diff(y,t)+5*y-g)

```

```

ans(t) = 3 - 3 heaviside(t)

```

```

% This gives me 3 - 3*heaviside(t) which is equal to 0 when heaviside(t) =
% 1. (This is step function).
% This demonstrates my solving is correct.

```

## Exercise 5

Objective: Use the Laplace transform to solve an integral equation

Verify that MATLAB knows about the convolution theorem by explaining why the following transform is computed correctly.

```

syms t tau y(tau) s

```

```
I=int(exp(-2*(t-tau))*y(tau),tau,0,t)
```

I =

$$\int_0^t e^{2\tau-2t} y(\tau) d\tau$$

```
laplace(I,t,s)
```

ans =

$$\frac{\text{laplace}(y(t), t, s)}{s + 2}$$

```
% That inetgral can be denoted as convolution intgeral
% which can be changed to (f*g)(t) = int(exp((2*tau - 2*t))*y(tau), tau, 0,
% t) where f is equal to exp((2*tau - 2*t)) and g is equal to y.
% Now, we can do the lapalce convolution to see if the answer is right.
% Laplace convolution theorem shows that lapace{f(t) *g(t)} = F(s)G(s)
% where F(s) = laplace{f(t)} and G(s) = laplace{g(t)}.
% We know that f which is exp(2t) will be 1/(s+2) under laplace transform.
Threfore,
% this is shown the answer should be product of 1/(s+2) and laplace(y(t))
% which is g. Now, this is shown that the answer is correct.
```