

# Applied differential equations

## TW244 - Lecture 26

### 7.2: Laplace transforms of derivatives

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## 7.2: Laplace transforms of derivatives

### First derivatives

How does the Laplace transform behave with derivatives?

**Claim:**\*

$$\mathcal{L}\{f'(t)\} = s\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} - f(0).$$

$$\int uv' = [uv] - \int u'v$$

**Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{f'(t)\} &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f'(t) dt \\&= [e^{-st} f(t)]_0^{\infty} + \int_0^{\infty} se^{-st} f(t) dt \\&= [0 - f(0)] + s\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} \\&= s\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} - f(0).\end{aligned}$$

This remarkable property (and the others which follow below) make Laplace transforms incredibly useful for solving DEs as they turn **differential** equations in to more familiar **algebraic** equations.

\*Under some fairly general assumptions on  $f$  that we won't concern ourselves with..

## 7.2: Laplace transforms of derivatives

### Second (and higher) derivatives

$$\mathcal{L}\{f'\} = s\mathcal{L}\{f\} - f(0)$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{f''\} = s\mathcal{L}\{f'\} - f'(0)$$

**Claim:**

$$\mathcal{L}\{f''(t)\} = s^2\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} - sf(0) - f'(0).$$

**Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{f''(t)\} &= s\mathcal{L}\{f'(t)\} - f'(0) \quad (\text{from above}) \\ &= s[s\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} - f(0)] - f'(0) \\ &= s^2\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} - sf(0) - f'(0).\end{aligned}$$

In general<sup>†</sup>

$$\mathcal{L}\{f^{(n)}(t)\} = s^n\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} - s^{n-1}f(0) - s^{n-2}f'(0) - \dots - f^{(n-1)}(0).$$

Now how can we use these results to solve initial value problems...?

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<sup>†</sup>Exercise: Prove this by induction.

## 7.2: Laplace transforms of derivatives

### Example 1

Solve  $y' = 2y + 4$  with  $y(0) = 3$ .

Taking the Laplace transform (LT) of both sides, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{y'\} &= \mathcal{L}\{2y + 4\} \\ \Rightarrow s\mathcal{L}\{y\} - y(0) &= 2\mathcal{L}\{y\} + 4\mathcal{L}\{1\} \\ \Rightarrow (s-2)\mathcal{L}\{y\} &= 3 + \frac{4}{s} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}\{y\} = \frac{3}{s-2} + \frac{4}{s(s-2)} \\ \therefore y &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{3}{s-2} + \frac{4}{s(s-2)}\right\} = 3\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s-2}\right\} + \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{4}{s(s-2)}\right\} \\ &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{3}{s-2}\right\} - \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{2}{s}\right\} + \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{2}{s-2}\right\} \quad (\text{partial fractions}) \\ &= 5\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s-2}\right\} - 2\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s}\right\} \\ y(t) &= 5e^{2t} - 2\end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$y(t) = 5e^{2t} - 2.$$

Exercise: Use partial fraction expansion to show  $\frac{4}{s(s-2)} = -\frac{2}{s} + \frac{2}{s-2}$ .

## 7.2: Laplace transforms of derivatives

### Example 2

$$\mathcal{L}\{y''\} = s^2 \mathcal{L}\{y\} - sy(0) - y'(0)$$

$$\text{Let } \mathcal{L}\{y\} = Y$$

Solve  $y'' + 9y = 80 \cos(5t)$  with  $y(0) = y'(0) = 0$ .

Taking the Laplace transform (LT) of both sides, we have

$$\mathcal{L}\{y''\} + 9\mathcal{L}\{y\} = 80\mathcal{L}\{\cos(5t)\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{s^2 \mathcal{L}\{y\} - sy(0) - y'(0)} + 9\mathcal{L}\{y\} = \underbrace{(s^2 + 9)\mathcal{L}\{y\}} = 80 \left( \frac{s}{s^2 + 25} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore Y &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{80s}{(s^2 + 25)(s^2 + 9)} \right\} \\ &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{-5s}{s^2 + 25} + \frac{5s}{s^2 + 9} \right\} \quad (\text{partial fraction expansion}) \\ &= -5\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2 + 25} \right\} + 5\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2 + 9} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$y(t) = -5 \cos(5t) + 5 \cos(3t).$$

Exercise: Use partial fraction expansion to show  $\frac{80}{(s^2 + 25)(s^2 + 9)} = -\frac{5}{s^2 + 25} + \frac{5}{s^2 + 9}$ .

$$\frac{80s}{(s^2+25)(s^2+9)} = \frac{A+Bs}{s^2+25} + \frac{C+Ds}{s^2+9}$$

$$\Rightarrow 80s = (A+Bs)(s^2+9) + (C+Ds)(s^2+25)$$

$$= \underbrace{(9A+25C)}_{=0} + s \underbrace{(9B+25D)}_{=80} + s^2 \underbrace{(A+C)}_{=0} + s^3 \underbrace{(B+D)}_{=0}$$

$$\Rightarrow A=C=0.$$

$$\Rightarrow D=-B \Rightarrow$$

$$9B+25(-B) = 80 = (9-25)B = 80$$

$$\Rightarrow B = -80/16 = -5$$

$$\Rightarrow D = 5$$

$$\frac{80s}{(s^2+25)(s^2+9)} = \frac{-5s}{s^2+25} + \frac{5s}{s^2+9}$$

## 7.2: Laplace transforms of derivatives

### The punchline

- 1 Take Laplace Transform (LT) of both sides of the DE.
- 2 Use results from p. 1–2 to write LT of derivatives in terms of LT of  $y$ .
- 3 Make  $\mathcal{L}\{y\}$  the subject of the equation via algebraic manipulation.
- 4 Take the inverse LT of both sides to obtain  $y(t)$ .<sup>†</sup>
- 5 ~~Make money.~~

Exercise: Use this technique solve the IVP  $y'' - 3y' + 2y = e^{-4t}$  with  $y(0) = 1$  and  $y'(0) = 5$ .  
(Hint: Solution  $y(t) = -\frac{16}{5}e^t + \frac{25}{6}e^{2t} + \frac{1}{30}e^{-4t}$ .)

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<sup>†</sup>As we've seen, the ability to compute partial fraction expansions is important here, so practice!



## 7.6: Systems of linear DEs (revisited)

Recall: Method of elimination

Recall the “method of elimination” for solving systems of DEs:

**Example:**  $\frac{dx}{dt} = -\frac{4}{25}x + \frac{1}{25}y$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{4}{25}x - \frac{4}{25}y$ ,  $x(0) = 4$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}(D + \frac{4}{25})x - \frac{1}{25}y &= 0 &\implies (D + \frac{4}{25})^2x - \frac{1}{25}(D + \frac{4}{25})y &= 0 &(1) \\ -\frac{4}{25}x + (D + \frac{4}{25})y &= 0 &\implies -\frac{4}{25}\frac{1}{25}x + \frac{1}{25}(D + \frac{4}{25})y &= 0 &(2) \\ (1) + (2) &\implies x'' + \frac{8}{25}x' + \frac{12}{625}x &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Try  $x = e^{mt} \implies m^2 + \frac{8}{25}m + \frac{12}{625} = 0 \implies m = -\frac{2}{25}, -\frac{6}{25}$  then

$$x = c_1 e^{-\frac{2}{25}t} + c_2 e^{-\frac{6}{25}t} \quad \text{and} \quad y = 25 \frac{dx}{dt} + 4x = 2c_1 e^{-\frac{2}{25}t} - 2c_2 e^{-\frac{6}{25}t}.$$

Initial conditions imply  $c_1 = c_2 = 2$  (exercise) so

$$\begin{aligned}x(t) &= 2e^{-\frac{2}{25}t} + 2e^{-\frac{6}{25}t} \\ y(t) &= 4e^{-\frac{2}{25}t} - 4e^{-\frac{6}{25}t}.\end{aligned}$$



# 7.6: Systems of linear DEs (revisited)

## Laplace transform method for systems

### Laplace transform method for systems

The outline of the procedure is...

- 1 Take Laplace Transform (LT) of both equations.
- 2 Solve for  $\mathcal{L}\{x\}$  and  $\mathcal{L}\{y\}$  simultaneously.
- 3 Get the inverse transform in one unknown (e.g.,  $x$ )
- 4 Substitute back and solve for the other unknown (e.g.,  $y$ )

Let's try this on the example from above!

## 7.6: Systems of linear DEs (revisited)

Laplace transform method for systems: example

Consider again the IVP (with  $x(0) = 4$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ )

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\frac{4}{25}x + \frac{1}{25}y \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{4}{25}x - \frac{4}{25}y \quad (2)$$

(For convenience, we denote  $\underline{X} = \mathcal{L}\{x\}$  and  $Y = \mathcal{L}\{y\}$ .)

**Step 1:**  $\mathcal{L}\{x\}$

$$\text{LT of (1)} \Rightarrow \underline{sX - 4} = -\frac{4}{25}X + \frac{1}{25}Y \Rightarrow (s + \frac{4}{25})X - \frac{1}{25}Y = 4 \quad (3)$$

$$\text{LT of (2)} \Rightarrow \underline{sY - 0} = \frac{4}{25}X - \frac{4}{25}Y \Rightarrow -\frac{4}{25}X + (s + \frac{4}{25})Y = 0 \quad (4)$$

**Step 2:**  $\mathcal{L}\{y\}$

$$\frac{4}{25} \times (3) \Rightarrow +\frac{4}{25}(s + \frac{4}{25})X - \frac{4}{625}Y = \frac{16}{25} \quad (5)$$

$$(s + \frac{4}{25}) \times (4) \Rightarrow -\frac{4}{25}(s + \frac{4}{25})X + (s + \frac{4}{25})^2 Y = 0 \quad (6)$$

$$\Rightarrow (s + \frac{4}{25})^2 Y - \frac{4}{625}Y = \frac{16}{25} \Rightarrow y = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{\frac{16}{25}}{(s + \frac{2}{25})(s + \frac{6}{25})}\right\}$$

$$((s + \frac{4}{25})^2 - \frac{4}{625})Y = \frac{16}{25}$$

$$\left( \left( s + \frac{4}{2s} \right)^2 - \frac{4}{62s} \right) \gamma = 16/25$$

$$\hookrightarrow s^2 + \frac{8}{2s} + \frac{16}{62s} - \frac{4}{62s}$$

$$= s^2 + \frac{8}{2s} + \frac{12}{62s} = (s + 2/2s)(s + 6/2s)$$

Partial fractions:

$$\lambda(s)\gamma = \frac{16/2s}{(s+2/2s)(s+6/2s)} = \frac{A}{s+2/2s} + \frac{B}{s+6/2s}$$

$$\Rightarrow 16/2s = A(s+6/2s) + B(s+2/2s) = s(\underbrace{A+B}_{=0}) + (\underbrace{6A+2B}_{=16})/2s$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} B = -A \\ 6A + 2A = 16 \Rightarrow A = 4, B = -4 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \gamma = \frac{4}{s+2/2s} - \frac{4}{s+4/2s} = 2s\gamma^2$$

## 7.6: Systems of linear DEs (revisited)

Laplace transform method for systems: example (cont.)

**Step 3:**

$$y = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{\frac{16}{25}}{(s+\frac{2}{25})(s+\frac{6}{25})} \right\} \overset{\text{partial fractions}}{=} 4\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s+\frac{2}{25}} \right\} - 4\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s+\frac{6}{25}} \right\}$$
$$\therefore y(t) = \underline{4e^{-\frac{2}{25}t}} - 4e^{-\frac{6}{25}t}$$

**Step 4:** From the DE in (2) we have that

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{25}{4} \frac{dy}{dt} + y \\&= \frac{25}{4} \left[ -\frac{8}{25} e^{-\frac{2}{25}t} + \frac{24}{25} e^{-\frac{6}{25}t} \right] + 4e^{-\frac{2}{25}t} - 4e^{-\frac{6}{25}t} \\ \therefore x(t) &= \underline{2e^{-\frac{2}{25}t} + 2e^{-\frac{6}{25}t}}.\end{aligned}$$

Which agrees with our answer from the method of elimination!

Exercise: Use this technique to solve  $x' = -x + y$ ,  $y' = 2x$ ,  $x(0) = 0$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ .  
(Hint: Solution  $x(t) = -\frac{1}{3}e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{3}e^t$ ,  $y(t) = \frac{1}{3}e^{-2t} + \frac{2}{3}e^t$ .)



$$y'' - 3y' + 2y = e^{-4t} \text{ with } y(0) = 1 \text{ and } y'(0) = 5. \quad (2)$$

$$(1) \quad \mathcal{L}\{y''\} - 3\mathcal{L}\{y'\} + 2\mathcal{L}\{y\} = \mathcal{L}\{e^{-4t}\} = \frac{1}{s+4}$$

$$[s^2Y - sy(0) - y'(0)] - 3[sY - y(0)] + 2Y = \frac{1}{s+4}$$

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

$$(3) \quad \mathcal{L}\{y\} = Y = \frac{1}{(s+4)(s-2)(s-1)} + \frac{s+2}{(s-2)(s-1)} = *$$

Partial Fractions

$$\frac{1}{(s+4)(s-2)(s-1)} = \frac{A}{s+4} + \frac{B}{s-2} + \frac{C}{s-1} \Rightarrow 1 = A(s-2)(s-1) + B(s+4)(s-1) + C(s+4)(s-2)$$

$$s = -4 \Rightarrow 1 = A(-6)(-5) \Rightarrow A = 1/30$$

$$s = 2 \Rightarrow 1 = B(6)(1) \Rightarrow B = 1/6$$

$$s = 1 \Rightarrow 1 = C(5)(-1) \Rightarrow C = -1/5$$

$$\frac{s+2}{(s-2)(s-1)} = \frac{A}{s-2} + \frac{B}{s-1} \Rightarrow s+2 = A(s-1) + B(s-2) = s(A+B) + (-A-2B)$$

$$\Rightarrow A+B=1, -A-2B=2 \Rightarrow -B=3 \Rightarrow B=-3, A=4$$

$$= \frac{4}{s-2} - \frac{3}{s-1}$$

$$y = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{*\} = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1/30}{s+4}\right\} + \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{4+1/6}{s-2}\right\} - \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{3+1/5}{s-1}\right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{30}e^{-4t} + \frac{23}{6}e^{2t} - \frac{16}{5}e^t$$

$$x' = -x + y, \quad y' = 2x, \quad x(0) = 0, \quad y(0) = 1$$

$$X := \mathcal{L}\{x\}, \quad Y := \mathcal{L}\{y\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} \quad \mathcal{L}\{x'\} &= s\mathcal{L}\{x\} - x(0) = sX - 0 = -X + Y \quad \textcircled{2} \quad \begin{cases} sX = -X + Y \\ sY - 1 = 2X \end{cases} \\ \mathcal{L}\{y'\} &= s\mathcal{L}\{y\} - y(0) = sY - 1 = 2\mathcal{L}\{x\} = 2X \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow Y = (s+1)X$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow s[(s+1)X] - 1 &= 2X \Rightarrow (s^2 + s - 2)X = (s+2)(s-1)X = 1 \\ \Rightarrow X &= \frac{1}{(s+2)(s-1)} = \mathcal{L}\{x\} \end{aligned}$$

Partial fractions

$$\frac{1}{(s+2)(s-1)} = \frac{A}{(s+2)} + \frac{B}{(s-1)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= A(s-1) + B(s+2) = s(A+B) + (-A+2B) \\ \Rightarrow 3B &= 1 \Rightarrow B = 1/3, \quad A = -1/3. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{2} \quad x &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s+2)(s-1)}\right\} = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{-1/3}{s+2} + \frac{1/3}{s-1}\right\} = -1/3 \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s+2}\right\} + 1/3 \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s-1}\right\} \\ &= -1/3 e^{-2t} + 1/3 e^t = x \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{3} \quad y &= x' + x = \left[2/3 e^{-2t} + 1/3 e^t\right] + \left[-1/3 e^{-2t} + 1/3 e^t\right] \\ &= 1/3 e^{-2t} + 2/3 e^t. \end{aligned}$$