

Convolution Theorem

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Inverse by convolution theorem:

Definition: If $f_1(t)$ and $f_2(t)$ are two functions then the integrals $\int_0^t f_1(u)f_2(t-u)du$ is called the convolution (= twisting, coiling, winding together) of $f_1(t)$ and $f_2(t)$ and is denoted by $f_1(t)*f_2(t)$.

Thus $f_1(t)*f_2(t) = \int_0^t f_1(t)f_2(t-u)du$

Theorem: Let $L[f_1(t)] = \phi_1(s)$ and $L[f_2(t)] = \phi_2(s)$, then $L^{-1}[\phi_1(s) \cdot \phi_2(s)] = \int_0^t f_1(u) \cdot f_2(t-u)du$

Where $f_1(t) = L^{-1}[\phi_1(s)]$ and $f_2(t) = L^{-1}[\phi_2(s)]$

Procedure of Applying Convolution Theorem:

To find $L^{-1}[\phi_1(s) \cdot \phi_2(s)]$

1. Find $L^{-1}[\phi_1(s)] = f_1(u)$, say putting u in place to t .
2. Find $L^{-1}[\phi_2(s)] = f_2(t-u)$, say putting $(t-u)$ in place to t .
3. Find $L^{-1}[\phi_1(s) \cdot \phi_2(s)] = \int_0^t f_1(u)f_2(t-u)du$

Find the inverse Laplace Transform of the following functions using convolution theorem

① $\frac{s^2}{(s^2+a^2)^2}$

Solution :- let $\phi_1(s) = \frac{s}{s^2+a^2}$, $\phi_2(s) = \frac{s}{s^2+a^2}$

$$\therefore f_1(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_1(s)] = \cos at, \quad f_2(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_2(s)] = \cos at$$

$$\therefore \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_1(s)] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_1(s) \cdot \phi_2(s)]$$

$$= \int_0^t f_1(u) f_2(t-u) du$$

$$= \int_0^t \cos au \cos a(t-u) du$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \cos at + \cos a(2u-t) du$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[u \cos at + \frac{1}{2a} \sin a(2u-t) \right]_0^t$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[t \cos at + \frac{1}{2a} (\sin at - (-\sin at)) \right]$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{s^2}{(s^2 + a^2)^2} \right] = \frac{1}{2a} [\sin at + at \cos at]$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \phi(s) = \frac{1}{(s-2)(s+2)^2}$$

Solution $\therefore \phi(s) = \frac{1}{(s-2)(s+2)^2} = \frac{1}{(s+2)^2} \cdot \frac{1}{s-2}$

$$= \phi_1(s) \cdot \phi_2(s)$$

$$f_1(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_1(s)] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{(s+2)^2}\right] = t e^{-2t}$$

$$f_2(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_2(s)] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s-2}\right] = e^{2t}$$

By convolution Theorem

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi(s)] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_1(s) \phi_2(s)]$$

$$= \int_0^t f_1(u) f_2(t-u) du$$

$$= \int_0^t u e^{-2u} e^{2(t-u)} du$$

$$= \int_0^t u e^{2t-4u} du$$

$$= \left[u \left(\frac{e^{2t-4u}}{-4} \right) - (1) \left(\frac{e^{2t-4u}}{16} \right) \right]_0^t$$

$$= \left[t \left(\frac{e^{-2t}}{-4} \right) - \left(\frac{e^{-2t}}{16} \right) \right] - \left[0 - \frac{e^{2t}}{16} \right]$$

$$= \left(\frac{e^{2t} - e^{-2t}}{16} \right) - \frac{t e^{2t}}{4} = \frac{1}{16} \left[e^{2t} - 4t e^{2t} - e^{-2t} \right]$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \phi(s) = \frac{s}{(s^2+1)^2}$$

Solution $\therefore \phi(s) = \frac{s}{(s^2+1)^2} = \frac{s}{s^2+1} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2+1}$
 $= \phi_1(s) \phi_2(s)$

$$f_1(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_1(s)] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s}{s^2+1}\right] = \cos t$$

$$f_2(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_2(s)] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^2+1}\right] = \sin t$$

By convolution theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi(s)] &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_1(s) \cdot \phi_2(s)] \\ &= \int_0^t f_1(u) f_2(t-u) du \\ &= \int_0^t \cos u \sin(t-u) du \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \sin t + \sin(t-2u) du \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[u \sin t - \frac{\cos(t-2u)}{-2} \right]_0^t \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[(t \sin t + \cos t) - (0 + \cos t) \right]$$

$$= \frac{t \sin t}{2}$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad \phi(s) = \frac{1}{(s-a)(s-b)}$$

Solution $\therefore \phi(s) = \frac{1}{(s-a)(s-b)} = \frac{1}{s-a} \cdot \frac{1}{s-b}$
 $= \phi_1(s) \cdot \phi_2(s)$

$$f_1(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_1(s)] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s-a}\right] = e^{at}$$

$$f_2(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_2(s)] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s-b}\right] = e^{bt}$$

By convolution theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi(s)] &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_1(s) \phi_2(s)] \\ &= \int_0^t f_1(u) f_2(t-u) du = \int_0^t e^{au} \cdot e^{b(t-u)} du \\ &= \int_0^t e^{bt + (a-b)u} du = \left[\frac{e^{bt + (a-b)u}}{(a-b)} \right]_0^t \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{1}{a-b} \left[e^{at} - e^{bt} \right]$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s+3}{(s^2+6s+10)^2}\right]$$

Solution: $\phi(s) = \frac{s+3}{(s^2+6s+10)^2} = \frac{s+3}{[(s+3)^2+1]^2}$

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi(s)] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s+3}{[(s+3)^2+1]^2}\right] = e^{-3t} \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s}{(s^2+1)^2}\right]$$

Now consider $\phi_1(s) = \frac{s}{s^2+1}$, $\phi_2(s) = \frac{1}{s^2+1}$

$$\therefore f_1(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_1(s)] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s}{s^2+1}\right] = \cos t$$

$$f_2(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_2(s)] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^2+1}\right] = \sin t$$

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$$f_2(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_2(s)] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^2+1}\right] = \sin t$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s}{(s^2+1)^2}\right] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_1(s)\phi_2(s)] = \int_0^t f_1(u) f_2(t-u) du$$

$$= \int_0^t \cos u \sin(t-u) du$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \sin t + \sin(t-2u) du$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[u \sin t - \frac{\cos(t-2u)}{-2} \right]_0^t$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [t \sin t + \cos(t) - 0 - \cos t]$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s}{(s^2+1)^2}\right] = \frac{1}{2} t \sin t$$

$$\therefore \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s+3}{(s^2+6s+10)^2}\right] = e^{-3t} \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s}{(s^2+1)^2}\right] = e^{-3t} \cdot \frac{1}{2} t \sin t$$

⑥ $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s^2+5}{(s^2+4s+13)^2}\right]$

Solution $\therefore \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s^2+5}{(s^2+4s+13)^2}\right] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{(s^2+4s+13) - (4s+8)}{(s^2+4s+13)^2}\right]$

$$= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^2+4s+13}\right] - 4 \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s+2}{(s^2+4s+13)^2}\right]$$

$$= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{(s+2)^2+3^2}\right] - 4 \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s+2}{((s+2)^2+3^2)^2}\right]$$

$$= e^{-2t} \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^2+3^2}\right] - 4 e^{-2t} \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s}{(s^2+3^2)^2}\right] \quad \text{--- ①}$$

For solving $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{s}{s^2+3^2}\right]$ convolution theorem can be

For solving $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{s}{(s^2+3^2)^2} \right]$, convolution theorem can be used

$$\phi_1(s) = \frac{s}{s^2+3^2} \Rightarrow f_1(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_1(s)] = \cos 3t$$

$$\phi_2(s) = \frac{1}{s^2+3^2} \Rightarrow f_2(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_2(s)] = \frac{1}{3} \sin 3t$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{s}{(s^2+3^2)^2} \right] &= \int_0^t f_1(u) f_2(t-u) du = \int_0^t \cos 3u \cdot \frac{1}{3} \sin(3t-3u) du \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \int_0^t \sin 3t + \sin(3t-6u) du \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \left[u \sin 3t + \frac{\cos(3t-6u)}{6} \right]_0^t \\ &= \frac{1}{6} t \sin 3t \end{aligned}$$

substituting in (1)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{s^2+5}{(s^2+6s+13)^2} \right] &= e^{-2t} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \sin 3t - 4 e^{-2t} \cdot \frac{1}{6} t \sin 3t \\ &= \frac{1}{3} e^{-2t} \sin 3t - \frac{2}{3} e^{-2t} t \sin 3t \\ &= \frac{1}{3} e^{-2t} (1-2t) \sin 3t \end{aligned}$$

7 $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{s \sqrt{s+4}} \right]$

Solution $\therefore \phi(s) = \frac{1}{s \sqrt{s+4}} = \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{s+4}} = \phi_1(s) \cdot \phi_2(s)$

$$\begin{aligned} f_2(t) &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{s} \right] = 1 & f_1(t) &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{s+4}} \right] = e^{-4t} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{s^{1/2}} \right] \\ & & &= e^{-4t} \cdot \frac{t}{\Gamma(1/2)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{s \sqrt{s+4}} \right] = \int_0^t f_1(u) f_2(t-u) du$$

$$= \int_0^t e^{-4u} \frac{u^{-1/2}}{\Gamma(1/2)} du = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^t e^{-4u} u^{-1/2} du$$

put $4u = x^2$, $du = \frac{2x dx}{4} = \frac{x dx}{2} = \sqrt{u} dx$

$$\therefore u^{-1/2} du = dx$$

$$\therefore \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{s\sqrt{s+4}} \right] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{2\sqrt{t}} e^{-x^2} dx = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{erf}(2\sqrt{t})$$

$$\left[\because \operatorname{erf}(t) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^t e^{-x^2} dx \right]$$

Corollary:- If $\phi(s) = \frac{1}{s} \cdot \phi_1(s)$

then $f_1(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi_1(s)]$ & $f_2(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s}\right] = 1$

$$\therefore \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\phi(s)] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s} \phi_1(s)\right] = \int_0^t f_1(u) f_2(t-u) du$$

$$\textcircled{8} \quad \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{s(s+a)} \right]$$

Solution:- $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{s(s+a)} \right] = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{s+a} \cdot \frac{1}{s} \right]$

$$\phi_1(s) = \frac{1}{s+a} \quad f_1(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{s+a} \right] = e^{-at}$$

$$\phi_2(s) = \frac{1}{s} \quad f_2(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{s} \right] = 1.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{s(s+a)} \right] &= \int_0^t f_1(u) f_2(t-u) du = \int_0^t e^{-au} du = \left(\frac{e^{-au}}{-a} \right)_0^t \\ &= -\frac{1}{a} (e^{-at} - 1) = \frac{1 - e^{-at}}{a} \end{aligned}$$

Ex:- $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{s(s^2+1)} \right]$ (p.w) Ans:- $\frac{1 - \cos at}{a}$

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