

$$(7) (i) \frac{1}{8} [1 - e^{-2t} (2t^2 + 2t + 1)] \quad (ii) \frac{1}{a^4} + \frac{e^{at}}{6a^4} (a^3 t^3 - 3a^2 t^2 + 6at - 6)$$

$$(8) \frac{1}{5} [1 - e^{-2t} (2 \sin t + \cos t)] \quad (9) (i) \frac{1}{4} (e^{-2t} + 2t - 1) \quad (ii) \frac{1}{a^2} (e^{at} - at - 1)$$

$$(10) (i) \frac{1}{\omega^2} \left( t - \frac{1}{\omega} \sin \omega t \right) \quad (ii) \frac{1}{a^3} (\sinh at - at) \quad (iii) \sinh 2t - 2t$$

$$(11) (i) t(1 + e^{-t}) \quad (ii) \frac{1}{4} (1 - 2t - \cos 2t + \sin 2t) \quad (12) \frac{1}{8} (e^{2t} - 2t^2 - 2t - 1)$$

## 9.29 CONVOLUTION

Convolution is useful for obtaining Inverse Laplace Transform of a product of two transforms and solving ordinary differential equations.

**Definition :** Let  $f(t)$  and  $g(t)$  be two functions defined for  $t > 0$ . We define

$$f(t) * g(t) = \int_0^t f(u) g(t-u) du$$

assuming that the integral on the right hand side exists.

$f(t) * g(t)$  is called the convolution product of  $f(t)$  and  $g(t)$ .

It can be proved that

(i) Convolution product is commutative. i.e.  $f(t) * g(t) = g(t) * f(t)$

(ii) Convolution product is associative. i.e.  $f(t) * (g(t) * h(t)) = (f(t) * g(t)) * h(t)$

(iii)  $f(t) * 0 = 0 * f(t) = 0$

**Note :** In general  $1 * f(t) \neq f(t)$

**Convolution Theorem :** If  $L\{f(t)\} = \bar{f}(s)$  and  $L\{g(t)\} = \bar{g}(s)$  then  $L\{f(t) * g(t)\} = \bar{f}(s) \cdot \bar{g}(s)$

or  $L^{-1}\{\bar{f}(s) \cdot \bar{g}(s)\} = f(t) * g(t)$

[JNTU 2008S (Set No. 3)]

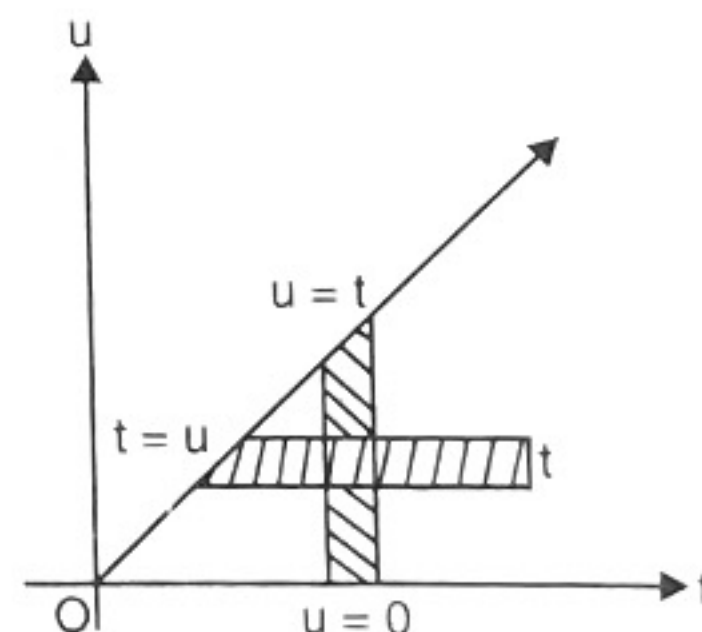
**Proof:** Let  $\phi(t) = f(t) * g(t) = \int_0^t f(u) g(t-u) du$ . Then

$$L\{\phi(t)\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \left\{ \int_0^t f(u) g(t-u) du \right\} dt = \int_0^\infty \int_0^t e^{-st} f(u) g(t-u) du dt$$

The double integral is considered within the region enclosed by the lines  $u = 0$  and  $u = t$ .

On changing the order of integration, we get

$$\begin{aligned} L\{\phi(t)\} &= \int_0^\infty \int_u^\infty e^{-st} f(u) g(t-u) dt du \\ &= \int_0^\infty e^{-su} f(u) \left\{ \int_u^\infty e^{-s(t-u)} g(t-u) dt \right\} du \end{aligned}$$



$$= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-su} f(u) \left\{ \int_0^{\infty} e^{-sv} g(v) dv \right\} du, \text{ on putting } t-u=v$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-su} f(u) \{\bar{g}(s)\} du = \bar{g}(s) \int_0^{\infty} e^{-su} f(u) du = \bar{g}(s) \cdot \bar{f}(s)$$

$\therefore L\{\phi(t)\} = \bar{f}(s) \cdot \bar{g}(s)$  or  $\phi(t) = L^{-1}\{\bar{f}(s) \cdot \bar{g}(s)\}$  or  $f(t) * g(t) = L^{-1}\{\bar{f}(s) \cdot \bar{g}(s)\}$   
Hence the theorem follows.

## SOLVED EXAMPLES

**Example 1 :** Using Convolution theorem, find (i)  $L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s+a)(s+b)}\right\}$  (ii)  $L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s(s^2+4)}\right\}$

**Solution :** (i) Let  $\bar{f}(s) = \frac{1}{s+a}$  and  $\bar{g}(s) = \frac{1}{s+b}$ . Then

$$f(t) = L^{-1}\{\bar{f}(s)\} = L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s+a}\right\} = e^{-at}$$

and  $g(t) = L^{-1}\{\bar{g}(s)\} = L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s+b}\right\} = e^{-bt}$

$\therefore$  By Convolution theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s+a)(s+b)}\right\} &= L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s+a} \cdot \frac{1}{s+b}\right\} = L^{-1}\{\bar{f}(s) \cdot \bar{g}(s)\} \\ &= f(t) * g(t) = \int_0^t f(u) g(t-u) du \\ &= \int_0^t e^{-au} \cdot e^{-b(t-u)} du = e^{-bt} \int_0^t e^{-(a-b)u} du \\ &= e^{-bt} \left[ \frac{e^{-(a-b)u}}{-(a-b)} \right]_0^t = -\frac{1}{a-b} e^{-bt} [e^{-(a-b)t} - 1] \\ &= \frac{1}{b-a} (e^{-at} - e^{-bt}) \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Let  $\bar{f}(s) = \frac{1}{s}$  and  $\bar{g}(s) = \frac{1}{s^2+4}$ . Then

$$f(t) = L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s}\right\} = 1 \text{ and } g(t) = L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s^2+2^2}\right\} = \frac{1}{2} \sin 2t$$

Applying Convolution theorem,

$$L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s(s^2+4)}\right\} = L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2+4}\right\} = L^{-1}\{\bar{f}(s) \cdot \bar{g}(s)\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= f(t) * g(t) = \int_0^t f(u)g(t-u)du = \int_0^t 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sin 2(t-u)du \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \sin 2(t-u)du = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{-\cos 2(t-u)}{-2} \right]_0^t \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} (\cos 0 - \cos 2t) = \frac{1}{4} (1 - \cos 2t)
 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 2 :** Using Convolution theorem, evaluate  $L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s(s^2 + 2s + 2)} \right\}$

**Solution :** Since  $f(t) = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s} \right\} = 1$  and

$$g(t) = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2 + 2s + 2} \right\} = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s+1)^2 + 1} \right\} = e^{-t} L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} \right\} = e^{-t} \sin t$$

$\therefore$  By Convolution theorem, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s(s^2 + 2s + 2)} \right\} &= L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + 2s + 2} \right\} = f(t) * g(t) = g(t) * f(t) \\
 &= \int_0^t g(u)f(t-u)du = \int_0^t e^{-u} \sin u \cdot 1 du = \int_0^t e^{-u} \sin u du \\
 &= \left[ \frac{e^{-u}}{1+1} (-\sin u - \cos u) \right]_0^t = -\frac{1}{2} \left[ e^{-u} (\sin u + \cos u) \right]_0^t \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} \left[ e^{-t} (\sin t + \cos t) - 1 \cdot (0 + 1) \right] = \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 - e^{-t} (\sin t + \cos t) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 3 :** Using Convolution theorem, find  $L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s^2 + a^2)^2} \right\}$

**Solution :** Let  $\bar{f}(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2}$  and  $\bar{g}(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2}$ . Then

$$f(t) = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2} \right\} = \frac{1}{a} \sin at \text{ and } g(t) = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2} \right\} = \frac{1}{a} \sin at$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s^2 + a^2)^2} \right\} &= L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2} \right\} = L^{-1} \{ \bar{f}(s) \cdot \bar{g}(s) \} = f(t) * g(t) \\
 &= \int_0^t f(u)g(t-u)du = \int_0^t \frac{1}{a} \sin au \cdot \frac{1}{a} \sin a(t-u)du \\
 &= \frac{1}{2a^2} \int_0^t 2 \sin au \sin (at - au) du
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 &= f(t) * g(t) = \int_0^t f(u)g(t-u)du = \int_0^t 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sin 2(t-u)du \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \sin 2(t-u)du = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{-\cos 2(t-u)}{-2} \right]_0^t \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} (\cos 0 - \cos 2t) = \frac{1}{4} (1 - \cos 2t)
 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 2 :** Using Convolution theorem, evaluate  $L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s(s^2 + 2s + 2)} \right\}$

**Solution :** Since  $f(t) = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s} \right\} = 1$  and

$$g(t) = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2 + 2s + 2} \right\} = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s+1)^2 + 1} \right\} = e^{-t} L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} \right\} = e^{-t} \sin t$$

$\therefore$  By Convolution theorem, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s(s^2 + 2s + 2)} \right\} &= L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + 2s + 2} \right\} = f(t) * g(t) = g(t) * f(t) \\
 &= \int_0^t g(u)f(t-u)du = \int_0^t e^{-u} \sin u \cdot 1 du = \int_0^t e^{-u} \sin u du \\
 &= \left[ \frac{e^{-u}}{1+1} (-\sin u - \cos u) \right]_0^t = -\frac{1}{2} \left[ e^{-u} (\sin u + \cos u) \right]_0^t \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2} \left[ e^{-t} (\sin t + \cos t) - 1 \cdot (0 + 1) \right] = \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 - e^{-t} (\sin t + \cos t) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 3 :** Using Convolution theorem, find  $L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s^2 + a^2)^2} \right\}$

**Solution :** Let  $\bar{f}(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2}$  and  $\bar{g}(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2}$ . Then

$$f(t) = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2} \right\} = \frac{1}{a} \sin at \text{ and } g(t) = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2} \right\} = \frac{1}{a} \sin at$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s^2 + a^2)^2} \right\} &= L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2} \right\} = L^{-1} \{ \bar{f}(s) \cdot \bar{g}(s) \} = f(t) * g(t) \\
 &= \int_0^t f(u)g(t-u)du = \int_0^t \frac{1}{a} \sin au \cdot \frac{1}{a} \sin a(t-u)du \\
 &= \frac{1}{2a^2} \int_0^t 2 \sin au \sin (at - au) du
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{2a^2} \int_0^t [\cos(2au - at) - \cos at] du \\
 &= \frac{1}{2a^2} \left[ \frac{\sin(2au - at)}{2a} - \cos at \cdot u \right]_0^t \\
 &= \frac{1}{2a^2} \left[ \frac{1}{2a} \sin at - t \cos at + \frac{1}{2a} \sin at \right] = \frac{1}{2a^3} (\sin at - at \cos at)
 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 4 :** Apply Convolution theorem to evaluate  $L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s-2)(s+2)^2} \right\}$

**Solution :** Let  $\bar{f}(s) = \frac{1}{s-2}$  and  $\bar{g}(s) = \frac{1}{(s+2)^2}$  so that

$$f(t) = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s-2} \right\} = e^{2t} \text{ and}$$

$$g(t) = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s+2)^2} \right\} = e^{-2t} L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2} \right\} = te^{-2t}$$

$\therefore$  By Convolution theorem,

$$\begin{aligned}
 L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s-2)(s+2)^2} \right\} &= L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s-2} \cdot \frac{1}{(s+2)^2} \right\} = L^{-1} \{ \bar{f}(s) \cdot \bar{g}(s) \} = f(t) * g(t) \\
 &= \int_0^t f(u)g(t-u)du = \int_0^t e^{2u}(t-u)e^{-2(t-u)}du \\
 &= e^{-2t} \int_0^t e^{4u}(t-u) \cdot du = e^{-2t} \left[ t \int_0^t e^{4u} du - \int_0^t ue^{4u} du \right] \\
 &= e^{-2t} \left[ t \left( \frac{e^{4u}}{4} \right)_0^t - \left\{ u \cdot \frac{e^{4u}}{4} - 1 \cdot \frac{e^{4u}}{16} \right\}_0^t \right] \\
 &= e^{-2t} \left[ \frac{t}{4}(e^{4t} - 1) - \left\{ \frac{t}{4}e^{4t} - \frac{1}{16}e^{4t} - 0 + \frac{1}{16} \right\} \right] \\
 &= e^{-2t} \left[ -\frac{t}{4} + \frac{1}{16}e^{4t} - \frac{1}{16} \right] = \frac{e^{-2t}}{16} (-4t + e^{4t} - 1) \\
 &= \frac{1}{16} [e^{2t} - (4t+1)e^{-2t}]
 \end{aligned}$$

**Alternative method :** Let  $\bar{f}(s) = \frac{1}{(s+2)^2}$  and  $\bar{g}(s) = \frac{1}{s-2}$ .

Then  $f(t) = e^{-2t} \cdot t$  and  $g(t) = e^{2t}$

By convolution Theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s-2) + (s+2)^2} \right\} &= \int_0^t e^{-2u} \cdot u \cdot e^{2(t-u)} du \\ &= e^{2t} \int_0^t u e^{-4u} du = e^{2t} \left[ u \left( \frac{e^{-4u}}{-4} \right) - 1 \cdot \left( \frac{e^{-4u}}{16} \right) \right]_0^t \\ &= \frac{1}{16} [e^{2t} - (4t+1) e^{-2t}] \end{aligned}$$

**Example 5 :** Using the Convolution theorem, find

(i)  $L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{(s^2 + a^2)^2} \right\}$  [JNTU 1997 S, 1998, (A) June 2010 (Set No. 2)]

(ii)  $L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s^2}{(s^2 + a^2)(s^2 + b^2)} \right\}$

(iii)  $L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2(s+1)^2} \right\}$

(iv)  $L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s(s+1)(s+2)} \right\}$  [JNTU 2003]

**Solution :** (i)  $L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{(s^2 + a^2)^2} \right\} = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2 + a^2} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2} \right\}$

Let  $\bar{f}(s) = \frac{s}{s^2 + a^2}$  and  $\bar{g}(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2}$ . Then

$$L^{-1} \{ \bar{f}(s) \} = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2 + a^2} \right\} = \cos at = f(t), \text{ say}$$

and  $L^{-1} \{ \bar{g}(s) \} = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2 + a^2} \right\} = \frac{1}{a} \sin at = g(t), \text{ say}$

$\therefore$  By the Convolution theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned} L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{(s^2 + a^2)^2} \right\} &= (\cos at) * \left( \frac{1}{a} \sin at \right) = \frac{1}{a} \int_0^t \cos au \sin a(t-u) du \\ &= \frac{1}{2a} \int_0^t [\sin(au + at - au) - \sin(au - at + au)] du \\ &= \frac{1}{2a} \int_0^t [\sin at - \sin(2au - at)] du = \frac{1}{2a} \left[ \sin at \cdot u + \frac{1}{2a} \cos(2au - at) \right]_0^t \\ &= \frac{1}{2a} \left[ t \sin at + \frac{1}{2a} \cos at - \frac{1}{2a} \cos at \right] = \frac{t}{2a} \sin at \end{aligned}$$

**Note :** Taking  $a = 1$ , the above problem becomes  $L^{-1} \left[ \frac{s}{(s^2 + 1)^2} \right] = \frac{t}{2} \sin t$



$$(ii) \quad L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s^2}{(s^2 + a^2)(s^2 + b^2)} \right\} = L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2 + a^2} \cdot \frac{s}{s^2 + b^2} \right\}$$

$$\text{Let } \bar{f}(s) = \frac{s}{s^2 + a^2} \text{ and } \bar{g}(s) = \frac{s}{s^2 + b^2}$$

$$\text{Then } f(t) = \cos at \text{ and } g(t) = \cos bt$$

$$\therefore L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s^2}{(s^2 + a^2)(s^2 + b^2)} \right\} = \cos at * \cos bt$$

$$= \int_0^t \cos au \cdot \cos b(t-u) du = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t 2 \cos au \cdot \cos b(t-u) du$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t [\cos(au + bt - bu) + \cos(au - bt + bu)] du$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \{ \cos[(a-b)u + bt] + \cos[(a+b)u - bt] \} du$$

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

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

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[ \sin at \left( \frac{1}{a-b} - \frac{1}{a+b} \right) + \sin bt \left( \frac{1}{a+b} - \frac{1}{a-b} \right) \right] = \frac{a \sin at - b \sin bt}{a^2 - b^2}$$

**Note :** (i) Putting  $a = 2$  and  $b = 3$  in the above problem, we obtain

$$L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s^2}{(s^2 + 4)(s^2 + 9)} \right\} = -\frac{1}{5} (2 \sin 2t - 3 \sin 3t) \quad [\text{JNTU 2006, 2006S, (A) 2010 (Set No.1)}]$$

(ii) Putting  $a = 2$  and  $b = 5$  in the above problem, we obtain

$$L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s^2}{(s^2 + 4)(s^2 + 25)} \right\} = \frac{2 \sin 2t - 5 \sin 5t}{2^2 - 5^2} = \frac{1}{21} (5 \sin 5t - 2 \sin 2t)$$

[JNTU Aug. 2008S, (K) May 2010 (Set No.4)]

$$(iii) \text{ Since } L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2} \right\} = t \text{ and } L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s+1)^2} \right\} = e^{-t} L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2} \right\} = te^{-t},$$

$\therefore$  By Convolution theorem, we get

$$L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s+1)^2} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2} \right\} = \int_0^t u e^{-u} (t-u) du = t \int_0^t u e^{-u} du - \int_0^t u^2 e^{-u} du$$

$$= t[-(t+1)e^{-t} + 1] - [-e^{-t}(t^2 + 2t + 2) + 2]$$

$$= -t^2 e^{-t} - t e^{-t} + t + t^2 e^{-t} + 2t e^{-t} + 2e^{-t} - 2$$

$$= t(e^{-t} + 1) + 2(e^{-t} - 1)$$

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

$$\text{Consider } \frac{1}{s(s+1)} = \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{s+1}$$

$$\text{Since } L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s}\right\} = 1 \text{ and } L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s+1}\right\} = e^{-t},$$

$\therefore$  By Convolution theorem, we get

$$L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s(s+1)}\right\} = \int_0^t 1 \cdot e^{-u} du = -\left(e^{-u}\right)_0^t = 1 - e^{-t}. \text{ Also } L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s+2}\right\} = e^{-2t}$$

Using convolution theorem again, we get

$$\begin{aligned} L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s(s+1)(s+2)}\right\} &= L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s(s+1)} \cdot \frac{1}{s+2}\right\} = \int_0^t e^{-2(t-u)} \cdot (1 - e^{-u}) du \\ &= e^{-2t} \int_0^t (e^{2u} - e^u) du = e^{-2t} \left( \frac{e^{2u}}{2} - e^u \right)_0^t \\ &= e^{-2t} \left( \frac{e^{2t}}{2} - e^t - \frac{1}{2} + 1 \right) = e^{-2t} \left( \frac{e^{2t}}{2} - e^t + \frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-2t} - e^{-t} \end{aligned}$$

**Example 6 :** Using Laplace transform, solve  $y(t) = 1 - e^{-t} + \int_0^t y(t-u) \sin u du$ .

[ JNTU June 2008 (Set No. 2) ]

**Solution :** Given integral equation can be written as

$$y(t) = 1 - e^{-t} + y(t) * \sin t, \text{ using definition of convolution}$$

Taking the Laplace Transform of both the sides, we have

$$\begin{aligned} L\{y(t)\} &= L\{1\} - L\{e^{-t}\} + L\{y(t) * \sin t\} \\ &= \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s+1} + L\{y(t)\} \cdot L\{\sin t\}, \text{ using convolution theorem.} \\ &= \frac{1}{s(s+1)} + L\{y(t)\} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2+1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(1 - \frac{1}{s^2+1}\right) L\{y(t)\} = \frac{1}{s(s+1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow L\{y(t)\} = \frac{s^2+1}{s^3(s+1)}$$

$$\therefore y(t) = L^{-1}\left\{\frac{s^2+1}{s^3(s+1)}\right\} = L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s(s+1)} + \frac{1}{s^3(s+1)}\right\}$$