ENG1005: Lecture 33

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Video link

Laplace transforms of integrals §11.3.2

Let

$$g(t) = \int_0^t f(\tau) \, d\tau.$$

Then, by the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, we have

$$\frac{dg}{dt}(t) = f(t).$$

So

$$\mathcal{L}[f(t)](s) = \mathcal{L}\left[\frac{dg}{dt}(t)\right](s) = s\mathcal{L}[g(t)](s) - g(0) = s\mathcal{L}\left[\int_0^t f(\tau) d\tau\right](s).$$

It follows that

$$\mathcal{L}\left[\int_0^t f(\tau) d\tau\right](s) = \frac{1}{s}\mathcal{L}[f(t)](s).$$

The inverse Laplace Transform §11.2.7

If f(t) and g(t) both satisfy

$$|f(t)| \le Me^{\sigma t}$$
 and $|g(t)| \le Me^{\sigma t}$, $t \ge 0$,

for some $M \geq 0$ and $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}$, and

$$\mathcal{L}[f(t)](s) = \mathcal{L}[g(t)](s), \operatorname{Re}(s) > \sigma.$$

Then it can be shown that

$$f(t) = g(t), \ t \ge 0.$$

This allows us to uniquely define the inverse Laplace transform by

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}[\mathcal{L}[f(t)]] = H(t)f(t),$$

where H(t) is the Heaviside step function

$$H(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t \ge 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } t < 0 \end{cases}$$

Bronwich integral (not examinable)

The inverse Laplace transform can be computed using

$$f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[F(s)](t) := \frac{1}{2\pi i} \lim_{T \to \infty} \int_{\sigma - iT}^{\sigma + iT} F(s) \, ds$$

where all singularities of F(s) lie in the region $Re(s) > \sigma$.

Example

Compute

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

Solution

Use partial fractions, we know that

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

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\sqrt{2}}{s^2 + (\sqrt{2})^2} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{s}{s^2 + (\sqrt{2})^2}$$

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

So then

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

Inverse of the s-shift property §11.2.9

Theorem

Suppose f(t), $t \ge 0$, has a Laplace Transform

$$F(s) = \mathcal{L}[f(t)](s), \operatorname{Re}(s) > \sigma,$$

and $a \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}[e^{-as}F(s)](t) = H(t-a)f(t-a).$$

Proof

By definition

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{L}[H(t-a)f(t-a)](s) &= \int_0^\infty H(t-a)f(t-a)\,dt \\ &= \int_{-a}^\infty e^{-s(\tau+a)}H(\tau)f(\tau)\,d\tau, \quad , \tau = t-a \\ &= \int_0^\infty e^{-s(\tau+a)}f(\tau)\,d\tau, \quad , \tau = t-a \\ &= \int_0^\infty e^{-s\tau}e^{-sa}f(\tau)\,d\tau, \quad , \tau = t-a \\ &= e^{-sa}\int_0^\infty e^{-s\tau}f(\tau)\,d\tau, \quad , \tau = t-a \\ &= e^{-sa}\mathcal{L}[f(t)](s) \\ \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}[H(t-a)f(t-a)](s) &= e^{-sa}\mathcal{L}[f(t)](s) = e^{-sa}F(s) \\ &\Rightarrow H(t-a)f(t-a) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[e^{-sa}F(s)](t) \end{split}$$

Convolutions

The convolution of two functions f(t) and g(t), $t \ge 0$, denoted by f * g(t), is the function defined by

$$(f * g)(t) = \int_0^t f(\tau)g(t - \tau) d\tau.$$

Theorem

Suppose f(t) and g(t) are two functions satisfying

$$|f(t)| \leq Me^{\sigma t} \text{ and } |g(t)| \leq Me^{\sigma t}, \ t \geq 0$$

for some $M \geq 0$, and $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$\mathcal{L}[(f*g)(t)](s) = F(s)G(s), \ \mathrm{Re}(s) > \sigma,$$

where

$$F(s) = \mathcal{L}[f(t)](s) \text{ and } G(s) = \mathcal{L}[g(t)](s).$$

Example

Use the Laplace transform to show that

$$\int_0^t t \sin(t - \tau) d\tau = t - \sin(t).$$

Note you could probably do integration by parts but whatever.

Solution

$$\mathcal{L}\left[\int_0^t t \sin(t-\tau) d\tau\right](s) = \mathcal{L}[t*\sin(t)](s)$$

$$= \mathcal{L}[t](s)\mathcal{L}[\sin(t)](s)$$

$$= \frac{1}{s^2} \frac{1}{s^2 + 1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{s^2} - \frac{1}{s^2 + 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_0^t t \sin(t-\tau) d\tau = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^2} - \frac{1}{s^2 + 1}\right](t)$$

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

$$= t - \sin(t)$$

Impulse

Mathematically, a short, sharp forcing at t = 0 is represented by the Dirac Delta Function (although it's not really a function), denoted by $\delta(t)$, which is defined by

$$\delta(t) = 0, \ t = 0,$$

and

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(t)\delta(t) dt = \begin{cases} f(0) & \text{if } 0 \in (a, b) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for all continuous functions f(t) that are defined on [a,b].

Example

Compute the Laplace transform of

$$\delta(t-a), \ a>0.$$

Solution

$$\mathcal{L}[\delta(t-a)](s) = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \delta(t-a) dt = e^{-sa}.$$