

Lecture 10

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Laplace transform of $f(t)$ for $0 < t < \infty$

$$\mathcal{L}[f(t)] \equiv \int_0^\infty f(t) e^{-st} dt = \tilde{f}(s)$$

Functions that are zero for $t < 0$ are called one-sided functions.

For one-sided $f(t)$, the Laplace transform is the same as the Fourier transform if we replace t by x and $i\omega$ by s .

$$\begin{aligned} F(\omega) = \mathcal{F}[f(\omega)] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\omega) e^{i\omega x} dx \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} f(\omega) e^{-sx} dx \quad i\omega = -s \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} f(t) e^{-st} dt \end{aligned}$$

$$= \tilde{f}(s)$$

$$F\left(\frac{is}{\omega}\right) = \tilde{f}(s)$$

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There is no "Laplace Integral Formula".
 Theory of Laplace transform comes from Fourier transform.

Let

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

From Fourier Integral formula

$$f(t) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}[F(\omega)]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(\omega) e^{-i\omega t} d\omega$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{-i\infty}^{i\infty} \tilde{f}(s) e^{st} ds$$

$$= \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\tilde{f}(s)]$$

$$\begin{cases} -i\omega \\ = s \end{cases}$$

The inverse transform involves integration in the complex plane.

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The problem with Fourier Integral Formula

is the requirement that

$f(x)$ be integrable in $-\infty < x < \infty$,
which is very restrictive.

For example, e^{-x} , e^x , l , x , x^2 etc
are not integrable in $-\infty < x < \infty$.

We can relax this requirement in
Laplace transform.

Suppose $f(t)$ is not integrable
because $f(t) \rightarrow \infty$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. Or
even because $f(t) \not\rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

Suppose for some positive real α ,
 $g(t) = f(t)e^{-\alpha t} \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$
is integrable.

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$$\tilde{f}(s) \equiv \mathcal{L}[f(t)] = \int_0^\infty f(t) e^{-\alpha t} e^{-st} dt$$

$$= \int_0^\infty f(t) e^{-(\alpha+s)t} dt$$

still let

$$\tilde{f}(s) = \mathcal{L}[f(t)] = \int_0^\infty f(t) e^{-st} dt$$

then $\tilde{g}(s) = \tilde{f}(\alpha+s)$

The inverse of $\tilde{g}(s)$ is

$$g(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{-i\infty}^{i\infty} \tilde{g}(s) e^{st} ds$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{-i\infty}^{i\infty} \tilde{f}(\alpha+s) e^{st} ds$$

Let $s' = s + \alpha$

$$f(t) e^{-\alpha t} = g(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{-i\infty}^{i\infty} \tilde{f}(\alpha+s') e^{st'} ds'$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\alpha-i\infty}^{\alpha+i\infty} \tilde{f}(s') e^{-\alpha t} e^{s't'} ds'$$

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$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\alpha-i\infty}^{\alpha+i\infty} \tilde{f}(s) e^{st} ds$$

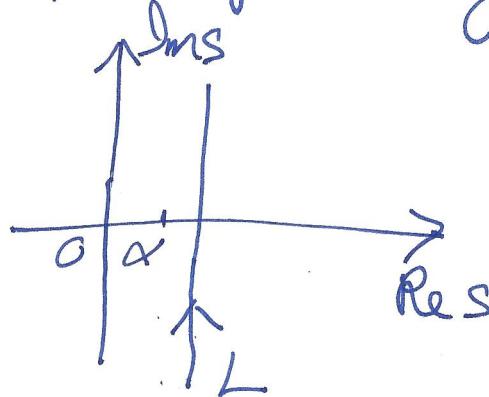
Thus, as long as $f(t)e^{-\alpha t}$ is integrable in $0 < t < \infty$, we have

$$\tilde{f}(s) = \mathcal{L}[f(t)] = \int_0^\infty f(t) e^{-st} dt$$

valid for $\operatorname{Re}s \geq \alpha$

$$f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[\tilde{f}(s)] = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\alpha-i\infty}^{\alpha+i\infty} \tilde{f}(s) e^{st} ds$$

In practice we do the integration in the s-complex plane along a vertical path to the right of all singularities of $\tilde{f}(s)$.



(8.6 of
my book) (6)

Solving the Drunken Sailor problem using Laplace transform

$$\text{PDE: } u_t = D u_{xx}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty \\ 0 < t < \infty$$

$$\text{BC: } u(x, t) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } x \rightarrow \pm \infty$$

$$\text{IC: } u(x, 0) = \delta(x), \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$

Laplace transform in t (more difficult)

$$\text{Let } \tilde{u}(x, s) = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} u(x, t) dt \\ = \mathcal{L}[u]$$

$$\mathcal{L}\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u\right] = D \tilde{u}_{xx}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} u\right\} = \int_0^\infty \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} u e^{-st} dt = u e^{-st} \Big|_0^\infty \\ + s \int_0^\infty u e^{-st} dt, \quad \text{Re } s > 0 \\ = s \tilde{u} - u(x, 0)$$

$$\boxed{\tilde{u}_{xx} - \frac{s}{D} \tilde{u} = -\frac{1}{D} \delta(x)}$$

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$$\boxed{\tilde{u}_{xx} - \frac{s}{D} \tilde{u} = -\frac{1}{D} \delta(x)}$$

Second-order ODE, nonhomogeneous.

Since $\delta(x) = 0$ for $x \neq 0$, we have

$$x > 0 : \quad \tilde{u}_{xx} - \frac{s}{D} \tilde{u} = 0, \text{ want } \tilde{u} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow \infty$$

$$x < 0 : \quad \tilde{u}_{xx} - \frac{s}{D} \tilde{u} = 0 \quad \text{want } \tilde{u} \rightarrow 0$$

$$x > 0 : \quad \tilde{u}(x, s) = \begin{cases} A(s) \exp \left\{ -\left(\frac{s}{D}\right)^{1/2} x \right\} & \text{if } \operatorname{Re} s^{1/2} > 0 \\ A'(s) \exp \left\{ +\left(\frac{s}{D}\right)^{1/2} x \right\} & \text{if } \operatorname{Re} s^{1/2} < 0 \end{cases}$$

Pick one of them, say $\operatorname{Re} s^{1/2} > 0$.

Keep this condition consistent throughout.

$$x > 0 : \quad \tilde{u}(x, s) = A(s) \exp \left\{ -\left(\frac{s}{D}\right)^{1/2} x \right\}$$

$$x < 0 : \quad \tilde{u}(x, s) = B(s) \exp \left\{ +\left(\frac{s}{D}\right)^{1/2} x \right\}$$

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Match two solutions across $x=0$:

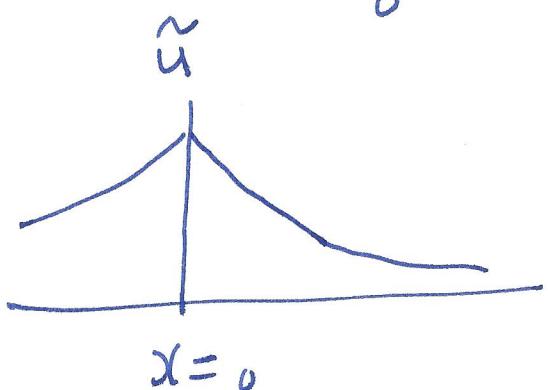
$$\int_{0^-}^{0^+} (\tilde{u}_{xx} - \frac{s}{D}\tilde{u}) dx = \int_{0^-}^{0^+} -\frac{1}{D} \delta(x) dx$$

$$= -\frac{1}{D}$$

$$\int_{0^-}^{0^+} \tilde{u} dx = 0 \text{ if } \tilde{u} \text{ is finite}$$

$$\int_{0^-}^{0^+} \tilde{u}_{xx} dx = \tilde{u}_x \Big|_{0^-}^{0^+}$$

So $\tilde{u}_x \Big|_{0^-}^{0^+} = -\frac{1}{D}$



\tilde{u} is continuous at $x=0$
Otherwise \tilde{u}_x is infinite.

If \tilde{u} is continuous at $x=0$

$$A(s) = B(s)$$

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$$\tilde{u}_x \text{ at } 0^+ \text{ is } (-s/D)^{1/2} A$$

$$\tilde{u}_x \text{ at } 0^- \text{ is } (s/D)^{1/2} B$$

$$2(s/D)^{1/2} A = -\frac{1}{D}$$

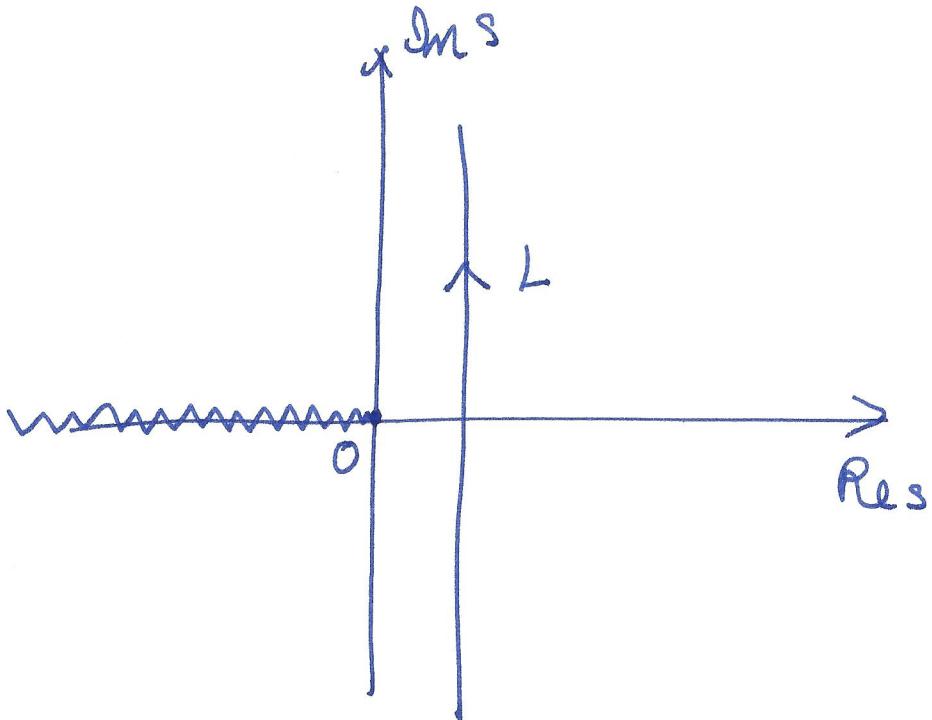
$$A = -\frac{1}{2D(s/D)^{1/2}}$$

$$\boxed{\tilde{u}(x,s) = \frac{1}{2(Ds)^{1/2}} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{s}{D}\right)^{1/2} k|x|\right\}}$$

Inverse Laplace transform (optional)

$$u(x,t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_L \frac{ds}{2(Ds)^{1/2}} \exp\left\{st - (s/D)^{1/2}|x|\right\}$$

where L is the vertical line in the complex plane to the right of all singularities
 There is a branch point at s=0.



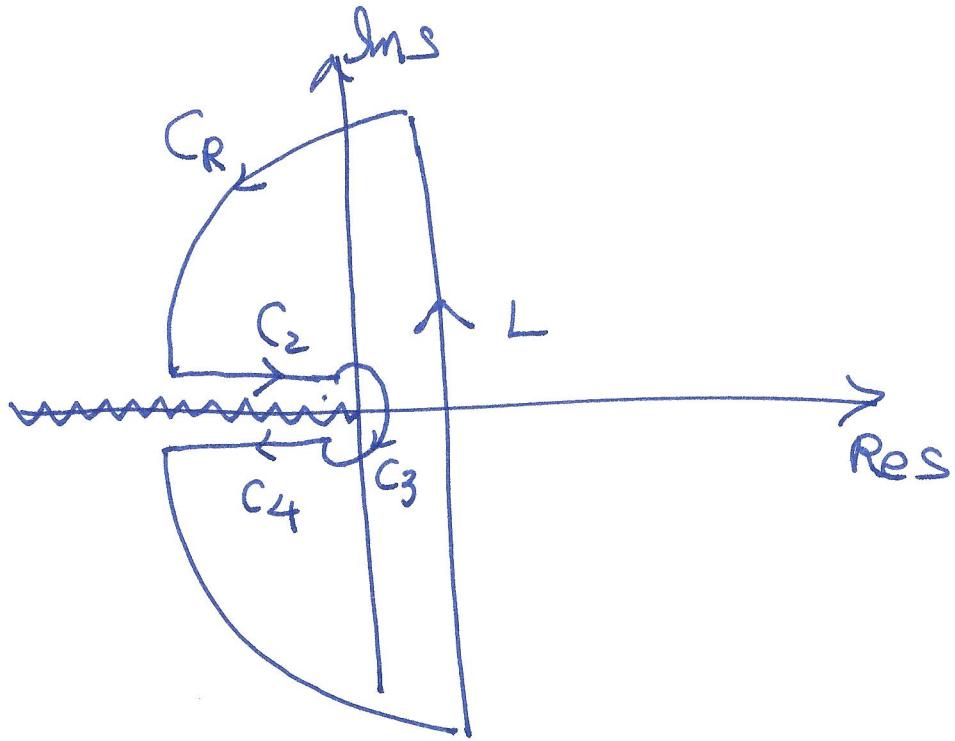
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The branch with $\operatorname{Re} s^{1/2} > 0$ is defined by

$$s = re^{i\theta}, \quad s^{1/2} = r^{1/2} e^{i\theta/2}$$

$$\operatorname{Re} s^{1/2} = r^{1/2} \cos \theta/2 > 0 \Rightarrow -\pi < \theta < \pi$$

\Rightarrow branch cut across the negative real axis



Consider the closed contour C defined by

$$C = L + C_R + C_2 + C_3 + C_4$$

There is no singularity inside C , so

$$\oint_C ds = 0.$$

$\int_{C_R} ds \rightarrow 0$ by Jordan's lemma for $t > 0$
and the radius $\rightarrow \infty$

$\int_{C_3} ds \rightarrow 0$ as the radius $\rightarrow 0$.

On the upper horizontal line C_2 ,

$$s = re^{i\pi^-}$$

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C_2} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{-\infty}^0 e^{-rt - i(r/D)^{1/2}|x|}$$

$$\frac{e^{i\pi} dr}{zi(Dr)^{1/2}}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{4\pi D^{1/2}} \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-rt - i(r/D)^{1/2}|x|}}{r^{1/2}} dr$$

On the lower horizontal line C_4 ,

$$s = re^{-i\pi^+}$$

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C_4} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_0^\infty e^{-rt + i(r/D)^{1/2}|x|} \frac{e^{-i\pi} dr}{-2i(Dr)^{1/2}}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{4\pi D^{1/2}} \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-rt + i(r/D)^{1/2}|x|}}{r^{1/2}} dr$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 u(x,t) &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_L = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \left\{ \int_C - \int_{C_R} - \int_{C_2} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \int_{C_3} - \int_{C_4} \right\} \\
 &= -\frac{1}{2\pi i} \left\{ \int_{C_2} + \int_{C_4} \right\} \\
 &= \frac{1}{4\pi D^{1/2}} \int_0^\infty \frac{dr}{r^{1/2}} e^{-rt} \left\{ e^{i(r/\delta)^{1/2}|x|} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + e^{-i(r/\delta)^{1/2}|x|} \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Let $y = r^{1/2}$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(x,t) &= \frac{1}{4\pi D^{1/2}} \int_0^\infty 2dy e^{-y^2 t} \left\{ e^{i(|x|/\delta^{1/2})y} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + e^{-i(|x|/\delta^{1/2})y} \right\} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi D^{1/2}} \int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{-t y^2 + i \frac{|x|}{D^{1/2}} y} dy \\
 &= \frac{1}{(4\pi D t)^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{x^2}{4Dt} \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Same as previously found using Fourier T.