

§ Partial Fractions and Inverse Laplace Transform

Rules for the Laplace transform

Definition: $\mathcal{L}[f(t)] = F(s) = \int_{0-}^{\infty} f(t)e^{-st} dt$ for $\operatorname{Re}(s) \gg 0$.

Linearity: $\mathcal{L}[af(t) + bg(t)] = aF(s) + bG(s)$.

\mathcal{L}^{-1} : $F(s)$ essentially determines $f(t)$ for $t > 0$.

s-shift rule: $\mathcal{L}[e^{rt}f(t)] = F(s - r)$.

s-derivative rule: $\mathcal{L}[tf(t)] = -F'(s)$.

t-derivative rule: $\mathcal{L}[f'(t)] = sF(s) - f(0^-)$.

Formulas for the Laplace transform

$$\mathcal{L}[1] = \frac{1}{s}, \quad \mathcal{L}[\delta(t - a)] = e^{-as}$$

$$\mathcal{L}[e^{rt}] = \frac{1}{s - r}, \quad \mathcal{L}[t^n] = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$$

$$\mathcal{L}[\cos(\omega t)] = \frac{s}{s^2 + \omega^2}, \quad \mathcal{L}[\sin(\omega t)] = \frac{\omega}{s^2 + \omega^2}$$

Problem 1: Find $\mathcal{L}[t^4 e^{\pi t}]$

Answer: $\mathcal{L}[t^4 e^{\pi t}] = \frac{4!}{(s-\pi)^5}$

Problem 2: Find $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{3}{2s-4}\right]$

Answer: $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{3}{2s-4}\right] = \frac{3}{2} \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s-2}\right] = \frac{3}{2} e^{2t}$

Problem 3: Find $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^2+4s+4}\right]$

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

Problem 5: Find $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{5s-6}{s^2-3s}\right]$

Answer:

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

Problem 6: Find $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{5-2s}{s^2+7s+10}\right]$

Answer:

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