

Lecture 11

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Missed a couple of classes...

Working with Piecewise-Defined Functions

To extend our method to IVPs with piecewise-defined functions, we need a simple, standard way of expressing them. We will use this:

Definition: The Heaviside function (Aka the Unit Step function) is defined as:

$$H(t) = 0 \text{ when } t < 0 \text{ and } H(t) = 1 \text{ when } t \geq 0$$

Examples:

$$\text{eg } e^{-t}H(t) = 0 \text{ for } t < 0 \text{ and } e^{-t} \text{ for } t \geq 0$$

We can shift this effect:

$$(4 - t^2)H(t - 1) = 0 \text{ for } t < 1 \text{ and } 4 - t^2 \text{ for } t \geq 1$$

We can use $H(t)$ to express almost any piecewise-defined function

ie: Sketch the graph of $f(t) = t^2 + (t - t^2)H(t) + (1 - t)H(t - 1)$

Solution:

$$\text{For } t < 0 \quad f(t) = t^2 + 0 + 0 = t^2$$

$$\text{For } 0 \leq t < 1 \quad f(t) = t^2 + (t - t^2) + 0 = t$$

$$\text{For } t \geq 1 \quad f(t) = t^2 + (t - t^2) + (1 - t) = 1$$

We'll need to do this in reverse:

eg. Write $f(t) = |t|$ in terms of $H(t)$

$$|t| = -t \text{ for } t < 0 \text{ and } t \text{ for } t \geq 0$$

$$\text{Then: } f(t) = -t + 2tH(t)$$

Comment: There are other ways to do this, however our standard structure will (always) be:

$$f(t) = \dots + \dots H(t - a) + \dots H(t - b) + \dots H(t - c) + \dots$$

Example: Rewrite:

$f(t) = 2t + 4$ for $t < -1$ and 3 for $t \in [-1, 1)$ and $3t$ for $t \in [1, \infty)$

Solution:

We want $f(t) = _ + _ H(t + 1) + _ H(t - 1)$

Filling in the blanks:

$$f(t) = (2t + 4) + (-2t - 1)H(t + 1) + (3t - 3)H(t - 1)$$

In general:

$f(t) = f_1$ if $t < a$, f_2 if $t \in [a, b)$ f_3 if $t \geq b$

$$f(t) = f_1 + (f_2 - f_1)H(t - a) + (f_3 - f_2)H(t - b)$$

There are a couple of tricks which may be useful:

- Consider $1 - H(t - a)$ this is 1 for $t < a$ and 0 for $t \geq a$ (an off switch)
- Consider $H(t - a) - H(t - b)$ where $a < b$ $= 0$ for $t < a$ and 1 for $a \leq t \leq b$ and 0 for $t \geq b$

The Second Shift Theorem

What is $L\{H(t)\}$? It's $L\{H(t)\} = \int_0^\infty H(t)e^{-st}dt$
 $= \int_0^\infty e^{-st}dt = L1 = \frac{1}{s^2}$ for $s > 0$

More generally: $L\{f(t)H(t)\} = L\{f(t)\} = F(s)$

From now on we'll write our formulas as:

$$\begin{array}{l|l} L\{H(t)\} = \frac{1}{s^2} & L^{-1}\{\frac{1}{s^2}\} = H(t) \\ L\{e^{at}H(t)\} = \frac{1}{s-a} & L^{-1}\{\frac{1}{s-a}\} = e^{at}H(t) \\ \text{etc} & \text{etc} \end{array}$$

What happens to $H(t - a)$?

$$\begin{aligned} L\{H(t - a)\} &= \int_0^\infty H(t - a)e^{-st}dt \\ &= \int_0^a 0 * e^{-st}dt + \int_a^\infty 1 * e^{-st}dt \\ &= 0 - \frac{e^{-st}}{s} \Big|_a^\infty = \frac{e^{-as}}{s} \end{aligned}$$

And now the big question, what about $F(t)H(t-a)$

Proof

$$\begin{aligned}
 L\{f(t-a)H(t-a)\} &= e^{-as}F(s) \\
 \therefore L\{f(t-a)H(t-a)\} &= \int_0^\infty e^{-st}f(t-a)H(t-a)dt \\
 \text{We let } \tau &= t-a \text{ and } d\tau = dt \\
 &= \int_{-a}^\infty e^{-s(\tau+a)}f(\tau)H(\tau)d\tau \\
 &= \int_{-a}^0 0d\tau + e^{-as} \int_0^\infty e^{-s\tau}f(\tau)d\tau = e^{-as}F(s)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{l|l}
 L\{H(t)\} = \frac{1}{s} & L^{-1}\{\frac{1}{s}\} = H(t) \\
 L\{e^{at}H(t)\} = \frac{1}{s-a} & L^{-1}\{\frac{1}{s-a}\} = e^{at}H(t) \\
 L\{t^n H(t)\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}} & L^{-1}\{\frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}\} = t^n H(t) \\
 L\{\cos at H(t)\} = \frac{s}{s^2+a^2} & L^{-1}\{\frac{s}{s^2+a^2}\} = \cos at H(t) \\
 L\{\sin at H(t)\} = \frac{a}{s^2+a^2} & L^{-1}\{\frac{a}{s^2+a^2}\} = \sin at H(t) \\
 L\{f(t-a)H(t-a)\} = e^{-as}F(s) & L^{-1}\{e^{-as}F(s)\} = f(t-a)H(t-a) \\
 L\{e^{at}f(t)\} = F(s-a) & L^{-1}\{F(s-a)\} = e^{at}f(t)
 \end{array}$$

Using the 2nd shift theorem

Example1)

Let $f(t) = t$ for $t \in [0, 2)$ and 0 for $t \geq 2$

Find $F(s)$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Write } f(t) &= t[H(t) - H(t-2)] = tH(t) - tH(t-2) = tH(t) - (t-2+2)H(t-2) \\
 &= t * H(t) - (t-2)H(t-2) - 2H(t-2)
 \end{aligned}$$

and now we can see that:

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

2)

Find $G(s)$ if $g(t) = \frac{1}{3}t$ for $t \in [0, 3)$ and $2 - \frac{1}{3}t$ for $t \in [3, 6)$ and 0 for $t \geq 6$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}
 g(t) &= \frac{1}{3}t[H(t) - H(t-3)] + (2 - \frac{1}{3}t)[H(t-3) - H(t-6)] \\
 &= \frac{1}{3}tH(t) + (2 - \frac{2}{3}t)H(t-3) + (\frac{1}{3}t - 2)H(t-6)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3}tH(t) - \frac{2}{3}(t-3)H(t-3) + \frac{1}{3}(t-6)H(t-6)$$

$$\rightarrow G(s) = \frac{1}{3S^2} - \frac{2}{3S^2}e^{-3s} + \frac{1}{3S^2}e^{-6s}$$

3)

Evaluate $L^{-1}\{\frac{e^{-s}}{s^2+1}\}$

Solution:

Since $L^{-1}\{\frac{1}{s^2+1}\} = \sin t H(t)$

We have $L^{-1}\{\frac{e^{-s}}{s^2+1}\} = \sin(t-1)H(t-1)$

4)

Find $L^{-1}\{\frac{e^{-3s}}{(s+1)^4}\}$

Solution:

$$L^{-1}\{\frac{1}{(s+1)^4}\} = e^{-t}L^{-1}\{\frac{1}{s^4}\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{6}e^{-t}L^{-1}\{\frac{6}{s^4}\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{6}t^3e^{-t}H(t)$$

$$\rightarrow L^{-1}\{\frac{e^{-3s}}{(s+1)^4}\} = \frac{1}{6}(t-3)^3e^{-(t-3)}H(t-3)$$

5)

Solve the IVP $\frac{dy}{dt} + 3y = f(t)$, $y(0) = 0$

where $f(t) = 3$ for $t \in [0, 10)$ and 6 for $t \in [10, 20)$ and 3 for $t \in [20, 30)$ and 0 for $t \in [30, \infty)$

Solution:

$$y' + 3y = 3H(t) + 3H(t-10) - 3H(t-20) - 3H(t-30)$$

$$\rightarrow sY + 3Y = \frac{3}{s} + \frac{3}{s}e^{-10s} - \frac{3}{s}e^{-20s} - \frac{3}{s}e^{-30s}$$

$$\rightarrow Y(s) = \frac{3}{s(s+3)}[1 + e^{-10s} - e^{-20s} - e^{-30s}]$$

$$Y(s) = [\frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s+3}](1 + e^{-10s} - e^{-20s} - e^{-30s})$$

$$\rightarrow y(t) = (1-e^{-3t})H(t) + (1-e^{-3(t-10)})H(t-10) - (1-e^{-3(t-20)})H(t-20) - (1-e^{-3(t-30)})H(t-30)$$

In piecewise-defined form:

$y(t) =$

$$\begin{aligned}
&1 - e^{-3t} \text{ for } t \in [0, 10) \\
&2 - (1 + e^{30})e^{-3t} \text{ for } t \in [10, 20) \\
&1 - (1 + e^{30} - e^{60})e^{-3t} \text{ for } t \in [20, 30) \\
&-(1 + e^{30} - e^{60} - e^{90})e^{-3t} \text{ for } t \in [30, \infty)
\end{aligned}$$

6)

Solve the IVP $x'' + 3x' + 2x = f(t)$ $x(0) = 1$, $x'(0) = -1$

where $f(t) = \sin(t)H(t - \frac{\pi}{2})$

Solution:

Note that $f(t) = \cos(t - \frac{\pi}{2})H(t - \frac{\pi}{2})$

So $(S^2X(s) - sx(0) - x'(0)) - 3(sX(s) - x(0)) + 2X(s)$

$$= \frac{S}{S^2+1}e^{-\frac{\pi}{2}S}$$

$$\rightarrow (S^2 + 3S + 2)X(s) = s + 2 + \frac{S}{S^2+1}e^{-\frac{\pi}{2}S}$$

$$\rightarrow x(s) = \frac{S+2}{(s+1)(s-2)} + \frac{se^{-\frac{\pi}{2}S}}{(S^2+1)(s+1)(s+2)}$$