

Recall: we have always rearranged products as sums

ex:  $Y(s) = \frac{1}{s^2(s^2+1)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s^2} + \frac{Cs + D}{s^2 + 1}$

After partial fraction decomposition...

$$A = 0, B = 1, C = 0, D = -1$$

$$\begin{aligned} Y(s) &= \frac{1}{s^2} - \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} \\ &= \mathcal{L}\{t\} - \mathcal{L}\{\sin(t)\} \end{aligned}$$

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

It is possible to deal with the product directly!

# Convolutions

We denote the convolution of two functions  $f$  and  $g$  by the symbol  $f * g$ , with

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

## Convolutions are:

### 1. Commutative/Symmetric

- $f * g = g * f$

### 2. Linear

- $f * (g + h) = f * g + f * h$ , where  $h$  is a function
- $f * (cg) = c(f * g) = (cf) * g$ , where  $c$  is a constant

### 3. Associative

- $f * (g * h) = (f * g) * h$

Convolutions are useful for inverting products of Laplace Transforms

# Convolution Theorem

If  $f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\}$  and  $g(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{G(s)\}$  are known functions, then

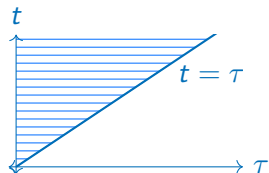
$$\boxed{\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s) \cdot G(s)\} = f * g} = \int_0^t f(\tau)g(t - \tau)d\tau = \int_0^t g(\tau)f(t - \tau)d\tau$$

or conversely

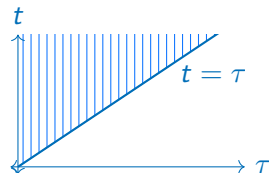
$$\boxed{\mathcal{L}\{f * g\} = F(s) \cdot G(s)}$$

# Proof of the convolution theorem with $h(t) = f(t) * g(t)$

$$\mathcal{L}\{h(t)\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} h(t) dt = \int_{t=0}^{\infty} \int_{\tau=0}^t f(\tau) g(t-\tau) e^{-st} d\tau dt$$



equivalent areas  
 $\Leftrightarrow$   
 switch integration order



$$= \int_{\tau=0}^{\infty} \int_{t=\tau}^{\infty} f(\tau) g(t-\tau) e^{-st} dt d\tau$$

$$= \int_{\tau=0}^{\infty} f(\tau) e^{-s\tau} \int_{t=\tau}^{\infty} g(t-\tau) e^{-s(t-\tau)} d\tau dt$$

let  $u = t - \tau$

$$= \underbrace{\int_{\tau=0}^{\infty} f(\tau) e^{-s\tau} d\tau}_{F(s)} \underbrace{\int_{u=0}^{\infty} g(u) e^{-su} du}_{G(s)}$$

$t = \tau \Rightarrow u = 0$

$$= F(s)G(s)$$

ex:  $y'' + y = t$  with  $y(0) = y'(0) = 0$ .

Use the convolution theorem to find  $y(t)$ .

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

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s^2(s^2 + 1)} = \frac{1}{s^2} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} = \mathcal{L}\{t^2\} \cdot \mathcal{L}\{\sin(t)\}$$

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

$$\stackrel{\text{by parts}}{=} [-t \cos(\tau) - \sin(\tau) + \tau \cos(\tau)]_{\tau=0}^t$$

$$= \cancel{-t \cos(t)} - \sin(t) + \cancel{t \cos(t)} + t \cos(0) + \cancel{\sin(0)} + \cancel{0 \cos(0)}$$

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

ex:  $y'' + y = \sin(t)$  with  $y(0) = y'(0) = 0$ .

Use the convolution theorem to find  $y(t)$ .

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

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

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

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

$$= \sin(t) \int_0^t \cos(\tau) \sin(\tau) d\tau - \cos(t) \int_0^t \sin^2(\tau) d\tau$$

hint:  $\sin(\alpha - \beta) = \sin(\alpha) \cos(\beta) - \cos(\alpha) \sin(\beta)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 y(t) &= \sin(t) \int_0^t \cos(\tau) \sin(\tau) d\tau - \cos(t) \int_0^t \sin^2(\tau) d\tau \\
 y(t) &= \frac{\sin(t)}{2} \int_0^t \sin(2\tau) d\tau - \frac{\cos(t)}{2} \int_0^t (1 - \cos(2\tau)) d\tau \\
 &= -\frac{\sin(t)}{4} [\cos(2\tau)]_{\tau=0}^t - \frac{\cos(t)}{2} \left[ \tau - \frac{\sin(2\tau)}{2} \right]_{\tau=0}^t \\
 &= -\frac{\sin(t)(\cos(2t) - 1)}{4} - \frac{t \cos(t)}{2} + \frac{\cos(t) \sin(2t)}{4} \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \sin(t) - \frac{t}{2} \cos(t) - \frac{1}{4} \underbrace{\cos(2t)}_{1-2\sin(t)} \sin(t) + \frac{1}{4} \underbrace{\sin(2t)}_{2\cos(t)\sin(t)} \cdot \cos(t) \\
 &= \cancel{\frac{1}{4} \sin(t)} - \frac{t}{2} \cos(t) - \cancel{\frac{1}{4} \sin(t)} + \frac{2}{4} (\sin^2(t) + \cos^2(t)) \sin(t) \quad \xrightarrow{1} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \sin(t) - \frac{t}{2} \cos(t)
 \end{aligned}$$

hint:  $\cos(\alpha) \sin(\alpha) = \frac{1}{2} \sin(2\alpha)$

and

$\sin^2(\alpha) = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos(2\alpha))$

ex:  $y'' + y = g(t)$  with  $y(0) = 3$ ,  $y'(0) = 5$ .

Use the convolution theorem to find an general expression for  $y(t)$ .

$$s^2 Y(s) - 3s - 5 + Y(s) = G(s)$$

$$(s^2 + 1)Y(s) = G(s) + 3s + 5$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{G(s)}{s^2 + 1} + 3\frac{s}{s^2 + 1} + 5\frac{1}{s^2 + 1}$$

$$y(t) = \sin(t) * g(t) + 3\cos(t) + 5\sin(t)$$

$$y(t) = \underbrace{\int_0^t \sin(t - \tau)g(\tau)d\tau}_{\text{particular part}} + \underbrace{3\cos(t) + 5\sin(t)}_{\text{homogeneous part}}$$

We can solve whole classes of ODEs at once.



The convolution theorem also allows us to solve integro-differential equations. ex:  $y'(t) = e^t + 2 \int_0^t y(t-\tau)e^\tau d\tau$  with  $y(0) = 0$

$$sY(s) = \frac{1}{s-1} + 2\mathcal{L} \left\{ \int_0^t y(t-\tau)e^\tau d\tau \right\} = \frac{1}{s-1} + 2Y(s)\frac{1}{s-1}$$

$$\left(s - \frac{2}{s-1}\right) Y(s) = \frac{1}{s-1} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\overbrace{s^2 - s - 2}^{(s-2)(s+1)}}{\cancel{s} \cancel{1}} Y(s) = \frac{1}{\cancel{s} \cancel{1}}$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= \int_0^t e^{2\tau} e^{-(t-\tau)} d\tau = e^{-t} \int_0^t e^{3\tau} d\tau = \frac{e^{-t}}{3} [e^{3\tau}]_{\tau=0}^t \\ &= \frac{1}{3} (e^{2t} - e^{-t}) \end{aligned}$$

# Convolution Theorem: Special Case

Let  $f(t)$  be an integrable function and  $g(t) = 1$ .

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t) * g(t)\} = F(s)G(s)$$

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\int_0^t f(\tau) d\tau\right\} = F(s)\mathcal{L}\{1\}$$

$$= \frac{F(s)}{s} \quad \text{or} \quad \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{F(s)}{s}\right\} = \int_0^t f(\tau) d\tau$$

ex: Find the inverse Laplace transforms of  $H(s) = \frac{1}{s(s+7)}$

$$h(t) = \int_0^t e^{-7\tau} d\tau = -\frac{1}{7} [e^{-7\tau}]_{\tau=0}^t = -\frac{1}{7} (e^{-7t} - 1)$$