AE 308: Control Theory AE 775: System Modelling, Dynamics & Control

Lecture 6: Laplace Transform and Transfer Function



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1 Laplace Transform

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Definition

• Laplace transform is defined as

$$\mathscr{L}[f(t)] = F(s) = \int_{0-}^{\infty} f(t)e^{-st} dt$$

where,

$$s = \sigma + j\omega$$

F(s) is called the Laplace transform of f(t)

Inverse Laplace transform is defined as

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}[F(s)] = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\sigma - j\infty}^{\sigma + j\infty} F(s) e^{st} ds = f(t)u(t)$$



Multiplication by a constant

ullet Let k be a constant and F(s) be the Laplace transform of f(t). Then

$$\mathscr{L}\left[kf(t)\right] = kF(s)$$

Sum and Difference

• Let $F_1(s)$ and $F_2(s)$ be the Laplace transforms of $f_1(t)$ and $f_2(t)$ respectively. Then

$$\mathscr{L}\left[f_1(t) \pm f_2(t)\right] = F_1(s) \pm F_2(s)$$



Differentiation

• Let F(s) be the Laplace transform of f(t), and f(0) is the limit of f(t) as t approaches to 0. The Laplace transform of time derivative of f(t) is

$$\mathscr{L}\left[\frac{df(t)}{dt}\right] = sF(s) - f(0)$$

ullet In general, for higher order derivative of f(t),

$$\mathscr{L}\left[\frac{d^n f(t)}{dt^n}\right] = s^n F(s) - s^{n-1} f(0) - s^{n-2} f^{(1)}(0) - \dots f^{n-1}(0)$$



Integration

ullet The Laplace transform of the first integral of f(t) with respect to t is the Laplace transform of f(t) divided by s, that is,

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

ullet For n^{th} order integration

$$\mathscr{L}\left[\int_{0}^{t_{n}} \int_{0}^{t_{n-1}} \dots \int_{0}^{t_{1}} f(t) d\tau dt_{1} dt_{2} \dots dt_{n-1}\right] = \frac{F(s)}{s^{n}}$$



Shift in Time

• The Laplace transform of f(t) delayed by time T is equal to the Laplace transform of f(t) multiplied by e^{-Ts} , that is

$$\mathscr{L}\left[f(t-T)u_s(t-T)\right] = e^{-Ts}F(s)$$

where $u_s(t-T)$ denotes the unit-step function that is shifted in time to the right by T.

Laplace Transform - Theorems



Initial Value Theorem

• Let the Laplace transform of f(t) be F(s), then

$$\lim_{t\to 0} f(t) = \lim_{s\to \infty} sF(s),$$

if the limit exists.

Final Value Theorem

• Let the Laplace transform of f(t) be F(s), then

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} f(t) = \lim_{s \to 0} sF(s),$$

if the limit exists.

Laplace Transform - Common Signals



Laplace transform of some common signals

Signal $u(t)$	Laplace transform $U(s)$	Signal $u(t)$	Laplace transform $U(s)$
S(t) [unit step]	$\frac{1}{s}$	$\delta(t)$ [impulse]	1
$\sin(at)$	$\frac{a}{s^2 + a^2}$	$\cos(at)$	$\frac{s}{s^2 + a^2}$
$e^{-\alpha t}\sin(at)$	$\frac{a}{(s+\alpha)^2 + a^2}$	$e^{-\alpha t}\cos(at)$	$\frac{s+\alpha}{(s+\alpha)^2+a^2}$
	(0 4) 4		(0 0) 0

Figure: Source - "Feedback Systems - An Introduction for Scientists and Engineers", by K. J. Åström and R. M. Murray



No.	function	LT
1	$\delta(t)$	1
2	1(t)	1/s
3	t	$1/s^{2}$
4	t^2	$2!/s^3$
5	t^3	$3!/s^4$
6	t^m	$m!/s^{m+1}$

No.	function	LT
7	e^{-at}	$\frac{a}{s+a}$
8	te^{-at}	$\frac{1}{(s+a)^2}$
9	$\frac{1}{2!}t^2e^{-at}$	$\frac{1}{(s+a)^3}$
10	$\frac{1}{(m-1)!}t^{m-1}e^{-at}$	$\frac{1}{(s+a)^m}$



No.	function	LT
11	$1 - e^{-at}$	$\frac{a}{s(s+a)}$
12	$\frac{1}{a}(at - 1 + e^{-at})$	$\frac{a}{s^2(s+a)}$
13	$e^{-at} - e^{-bt}$	$\frac{b-a}{(s+a)(s+b)}$
14	$(1-at)e^{-at}$	$\frac{s}{(s+a)^2s}$



No.	function	LT
15	$1 - e^{-at}(1 + at)$	$\frac{a^2}{s(s+a)^2}$
16	$be^{-bt} - ae^{-at}$	$\frac{(b-a)s}{(s+a)(s+b)}$
17	$\sin at$	$\frac{a}{s^2 + a^2}$
18	$\cos at$	$\frac{s}{s^2 + a^2}$



No.	function	LT
19	$e^{-at}\cos at$	$\frac{s+a}{(s+a)^2+b^2}$
20	$e^{-at}\sin at$	$\frac{b}{(s+a)^2 + b^2}$
21	$1 - e^{-at} \left(\cos bt + \frac{a}{b}\sin bt\right)$	$\frac{a^2 + b^2}{s\left[(s+a)^2 + b^2\right]}$

Laplace Transform - Features



Properties of Laplace transform

- The homogeneous equation and the particular integral of the solution of the differential equation are obtained in **one operation**.
- The Laplace transform converts the differential equation into an algebraic equation in s-domain. It is then possible to manipulate the algebraic equation by simple algebraic rules to obtain the solution in the s-domain. The final solution is obtained by taking the inverse Laplace transform.

Limitation

 Laplace transform is a linear operation and hence it is applicable only in the context of LTI systems.

Laplace Transform - Example



2nd order LTI system

• The system is given by

$$\ddot{y}(t) + 2\zeta\omega_n\dot{y}(t) + \omega_n^2 y(t) = \omega_n^2 r(t)$$

Take Laplace transform of each term

$$\left[s^{2}Y(s) - \dot{y}(0) - sy(0)\right] + 2\zeta\omega_{n}\left[sY(s) - y(0)\right] + \omega_{n}^{2}Y(s) = \omega_{n}^{2}R(s)$$

After rearranging

$$[s^{2} + 2\zeta\omega_{n}s + \omega_{n}^{2}]Y(s) = [\dot{y}(0) + (s + 2\zeta\omega_{n})y(0)] + \omega_{n}^{2}R(s)$$

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Laplace Transform

2 Transfer Function

Transfer Function - Introduction



Definition

- Transfer Function is defined as ratio of the Laplace transforms of output and input for a system under zero initial condition.
- $\bullet \ \ \text{Transfer Function} \ G(s) = \left. \frac{\mathscr{L}(\text{output})}{\mathscr{L}(\text{input})} \right|_{\text{zero initial condition}}$
- LTI representation

$$\frac{d^n y}{dt^n} + a_1 \frac{d^{n-1} y}{dt^{n-1}} + \dots + a_n y = b_0 \frac{d^m u}{dt^m} + \dots + b_m u$$

Take Laplace Transform of term by term

$$(a_0s^n + \dots + a_{n-1}s + a_n)Y(s) = (b_0s^m + b_1s^{m-1} + \dots + b_{m-1}s + b_m)U(s)$$

Transfer Function - Introduction



(cont...)

$$G(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{U(s)} = \frac{b_0 s^m + b_1 s^{m-1} + \dots + b_{m-1} s + b_m}{a_0 s^n + a_1 s^{m-1} + \dots + a_{n-1} s + a_n}$$



Transfer Function - Features



Transfer function is the s-domain unit impulse response

$$Y(s) = G(s).U(s) \rightarrow \text{for } U(s) = \delta(s) = 1, Y(s) = G(s)$$

ullet In general, G(s) is represented in polynomial and factored form

$$G(S) = K \frac{s^m + b_1 s^{n-1} + \dots + b_{m-1} s + b_m}{s^n + a_1 s^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1} + a_n}$$
$$= K \frac{(s - z_1)(s - z_2) \dots (s - z_m)}{s^k (s - p_{k+1})(s - p_{k+2}) \dots (s - p_n)}$$

where

- ullet p_i 's o poles, roots of the denominator polynomial
- $ullet \ z_j$'s o zeros, roots of the numerator polynomial
- ullet K o gain parameter
- ullet k o system type

Transfer Function - Example



2nd order LTI system

• We already established the relation

$$\[s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2\] Y(s) = [\dot{y}(0) + (s + 2\zeta\omega_n)y(0)] + \omega_n^2 R(s)$$

We know zero initial condition is must for Transfer function

$$\left[s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2\right]Y(s) = \omega_n^2 R(s)$$

Applying definition of TF

$$G(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{R(s)} = \frac{\omega_n^2}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2}$$

Transfer Function - Example



2nd order LTI system (cont...)

• Try to factorize the denominator

$$G(s) = \frac{\omega_n^2}{[s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2]} = \frac{\omega_n^2}{[(s + \zeta\omega_n)^2 + \omega_d^2]}$$

where
$$\omega_d^2 = \omega_n^2 (1 - \zeta^2)$$

We get

$$G(s) = \frac{\omega_n^2}{(s + \zeta\omega_n + j\omega_d)(s + \zeta\omega_n - j\omega_d)}$$



Transfer function for generating responses

- Transfer functions are used to generate time responses of LTI systems based on the principle of superposition.
- This involves
 - lacktriangledown decomposing Y(s) into its characteristic components
 - mapping these components to their time domain counterparts
- Decomposition is based on the premise that any complex LTI system can be synthesized as a linear combination of 1^{st} and 2^{nd} order terms.
- Partial fraction is standard method for decomposing.



Partial Fraction

- Partial fraction decomposition uses method of residues to decompose a $n^{\rm th}$ order fraction into a set of n, $1^{\rm st}$ order fractions.
- \bullet Consider n^{th} order system, along with its decomposed form, as given below.

$$G(s) = K \frac{(s - z_1)(s - z_2) \dots (s - z_m)}{s^k(s - p_{k+1})(s - p_{k+2}) \dots (s - p_n)}$$
$$G(s) = \frac{A_1}{s - p_1} + \frac{A_2}{s - p_2} + \dots + \frac{A_n}{s - p_n}$$

where, $A_1, ..., A_n$ are called **Residuals**.



Partial Fraction (cont...)

- The residues represent the contributions of each of the factors to the total response and are obtained as follows
 - Distinct poles

$$A_i = \left[(s - p_i)Y(s) \right]_{s=p_i}$$

Multiple poles at same location

$$G(s) = K \frac{(s-z_1)(s-z_2) \dots (s-z_m)}{(s-p_1)^k (s-p_{k+1} \dots + (s-p_n))}$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{A_1}{s-p_1} + \frac{A_2}{(s-p_1)^2} + \dots + \frac{A_k}{(s-p_1)^k} + \dots + \frac{A_i}{s-p_i}$$

$$A_j = \frac{1}{(k-j)!} \frac{d^{k-j}}{ds^{k-j}} \left[(s-p_1)^k Y(s) \right] \Big|_{s=p_1}$$
 where, $j=1,\dots,k$: $i=k+1,\dots,n$



Partial Fraction Example - Distinct Roots

Consider a TF and obtain unit impulse response

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

Hence, $p_1 = -1$ and $p_2 = -2$

ullet We know for unit impulse response Y(s)=G(s)

$$Y(s) = \frac{(s+3)}{(s+1)(s+2)} = \frac{A_1}{s+1} + \frac{A_2}{s+2}$$

Solution for finding the residuals

$$A_1 = [(s+1)Y(s)] = \left[\frac{(s+3)}{(s+2)} \right]_{s=-1} = 2$$

$$A_2 = [(s+2)Y(s)] = \left[\frac{(s+3)}{(s+1)} \right]_{s=-2} = -1$$



Partial Fraction Example - Distinct Roots (cont...)

Factorized form becomes

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

• Take the inverse Laplace transformation

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

• Thus, the impulse response of given system is

$$y(t) = 2e^{-t} - e^{-2t}$$



Partial Fraction Example - Repeated Roots

• Obtain the unit impulse response of given system

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

Hence, $p_1 = -1, -1, -1$.

 $\bullet \ \ \text{We know for unit impulse response} \ Y(s) = G(s)$

$$Y(s) = \frac{s^2 + 2s + 3}{(s+1)^3} = \frac{b_1}{s+1} + \frac{b_2}{(s+1)^2} + \frac{b_3}{(s+1)^3}$$



Partial Fraction Example - Repeated Roots (cont...)

Solution for finding the residuals

$$b_3 = \left[(s+1)^3 Y(s) \right] \Big|_{s=-1} = 2$$

$$b_2 = \frac{d}{ds} \left[(s+1)^3 Y(s) \right] \Big|_{s=-1} = 0$$

$$b_1 = \frac{1}{2!} \frac{d^2}{ds^2} \left[(s+1)^3 Y(s) \right] \Big|_{s=-1} = 1$$

Factorized form becomes

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

• Thus, the impulse response of given system is

$$(1+t^2)e^{-t}$$

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