

Laplace Transform Lab: Solving ODEs using Laplace Transform in MATLAB

This lab will teach you to solve ODEs using a built in MATLAB Laplace transform function `laplace`.

There are five (5) exercises in this lab that are to be handed in. Write your solutions in a separate file, including appropriate descriptions in each step.

Include your name and student number in the submitted file.

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Using symbolic variables to define functions

In this exercise we will use symbolic variables and functions.

```
syms t s x y
```

```
f = cos(t)
```

```
f = cos(t)
```

```
h = exp(2*x)
```

```
h = e2x
```

Laplace transform and its inverse

```
% The routine |laplace| computes the Laplace transform of a function
```

```
F=laplace(f)
```

```
F =
```

$$\frac{s}{s^2 + 1}$$

By default it uses the variable `s` for the Laplace transform But we can specify which variable we want:

```
H=laplace(h)
```

```
H =
```

$$\frac{1}{s - 2}$$

```
laplace(h,y)
```

```
ans =
```

$$\frac{1}{y-2}$$

```
% Observe that the results are identical: one in the variable |s| and the
% other in the variable |y|
```

We can also specify which variable to use to compute the Laplace transform:

```
j = exp(x*t)
```

```
j = et x
```

```
laplace(j)
```

```
ans =
```

$$\frac{1}{s-x}$$

```
laplace(j,x,s)
```

```
ans =
```

$$\frac{1}{s-t}$$

```
% By default, MATLAB assumes that the Laplace transform is to be computed
% using the variable |t|, unless we specify that we should use the variable
% |x|
```

We can also use inline functions with `laplace`. When using inline functions, we always have to specify the variable of the function.

```
l = @(t) t^2+t+1
```

```
l = function_handle with value:
    @(t)t^2+t+1
```

```
laplace(l(t))
```

```
ans =
```

$$\frac{s+1}{s^2} + \frac{2}{s^3}$$

MATLAB also has the routine `ilaplace` to compute the inverse Laplace transform

```
ilaplace(F)
```

```
ans = cos(t)
```

```
ilaplace(H)
```

```
ans = e2t
```

```
ilaplace(laplace(f))
```

```
ans = cos(t)
```

If laplace cannot compute the Laplace transform, it returns an unevaluated call.

```
g = 1/sqrt(t^2+1)
```

```
g =
```

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{t^2 + 1}}$$

```
G = laplace(g)
```

```
G =
```

$$\text{laplace}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{t^2 + 1}}, t, s\right)$$

But MATLAB "knows" that it is supposed to be a Laplace transform of a function. So if we compute the inverse Laplace transform, we obtain the original function

```
ilaplace(G)
```

```
ans =
```

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{t^2 + 1}}$$

The Laplace transform of a function is related to the Laplace transform of its derivative:

```
syms g(t)
laplace(diff(g,t),t,s)
```

```
ans = s laplace(g(t),t,s) - g(0)
```

Exercise 1

Objective: Compute the Laplace transform and use it to show that MATLAB 'knows' some of its properties.

Details:

(a) Define the function $f(t) = \exp(2t) \cdot t^3$, and compute its Laplace transform $F(s)$. (b) Find a function $f(t)$ such that its Laplace transform is $(s - 1)(s - 2)/(s(s + 2)(s - 3))$ (c) Show that MATLAB 'knows' that if $F(s)$ is the Laplace transform of $f(t)$, then the Laplace transform of $\exp(at)f(t)$ is $F(s-a)$

(in your answer, explain part (c) using comments).

Observe that MATLAB splits the rational function automatically when solving the inverse Laplace transform.

(a)

```
clc;
close all;
clear;

syms f t;
f = exp(2*t) * t^3;

F = laplace(f)
```

$$F = \frac{6}{(s-2)^4}$$

(b)

```
syms g G s;
G = ((s-1)*(s-2))/(s*(s+2)*(s-3));
g = ilaplace(G)
```

$$g = \frac{6e^{-2t}}{5} + \frac{2e^{3t}}{15} - \frac{1}{3}$$

(c)

```
syms F(t) f(t) a t
g(t) = exp(a*t)*f(t);
F=laplace(f(t))
```

$$F = \text{laplace}(f(t), t, s)$$

$$G = \text{laplace}(g(t))$$

$$G = \text{laplace}(f(t), t, s - a)$$

% f(t) is a non specific function with laplace transform F(s) as a function
% of (t,s, f(t)). Since g is a function of (a, t f(t)), MATLAB shows that G
% is a function of (f(t), t, s - a) implying that G is a function of
% F(s-a), since the (s) term in the G arguments is replaced by (s - a)

Heaviside and Dirac functions

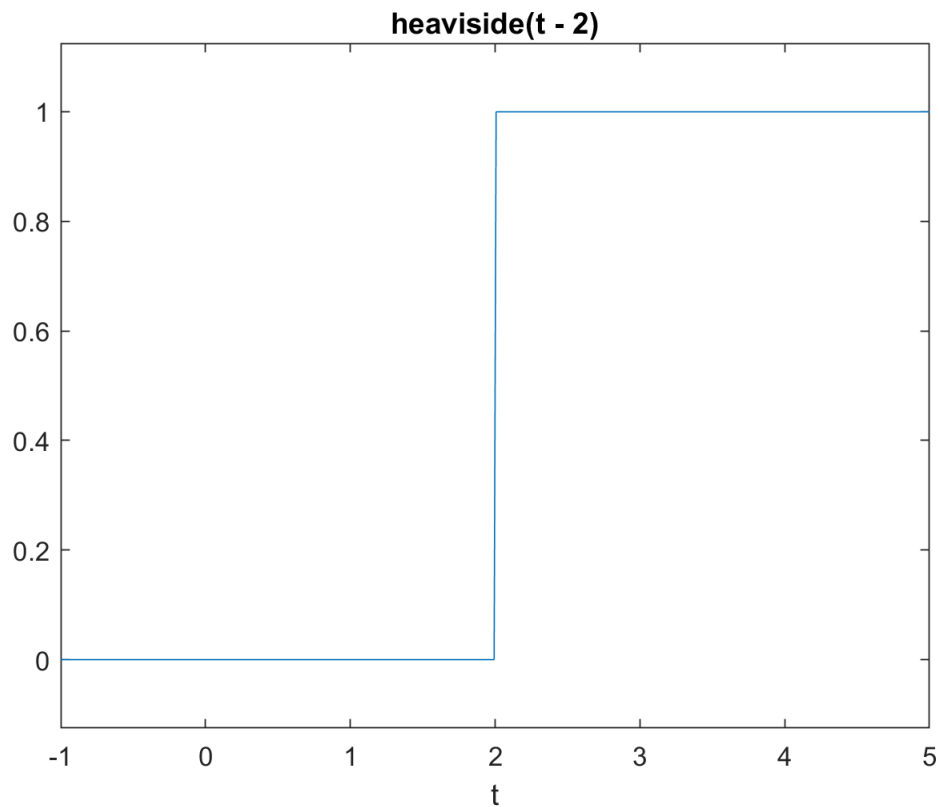
These two functions are builtin to MATLAB: heaviside is the Heaviside function $u_0(t)$ at 0

To define $u_2(t)$, we need to write

```
f=heaviside(t-2)
```

$$f = \text{heaviside}(t - 2)$$

```
ezplot(f,[-1,5])
```



```
% The Dirac delta function (at |0|) is also defined with the routine |dirac|
```

```
g = dirac(t-3)
```

```
g =  $\delta(t-3)$ 
```

```
% MATLAB "knows" how to compute the Laplace transform of these functions
```

```
laplace(f)
```

```
ans =
```

$$\frac{e^{-2s}}{s}$$

```
laplace(g)
```

```
ans =  $e^{-3s}$ 
```

Exercise 2

Objective: Find a formula comparing the Laplace transform of a translation of $f(t)$ by $t-a$ with the Laplace transform of $f(t)$

Details:

- Give a value to a
- Let $G(s)$ be the Laplace transform of $g(t)=u_a(t)f(t-a)$ and $F(s)$ is the Laplace transform of $f(t)$, then find a formula relating $G(s)$ and $F(s)$

In your answer, explain the 'proof' using comments.

```
clc;
close all;
clear;

syms a s t;

a = 10;

ua(t) = heaviside(t-a);

f(t) = t*exp(t);
F = laplace(f(t))
```

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

```
g(t) = ua(t)*f(t-a);
G = laplace(g(t))
```

$$G = \frac{e^{-10s}}{(s-1)^2}$$

```
% The laplace transform of a function u_a(t)*f(t-a) = exp(-c*s) * F(s)
% where F(s) is the laplace transform of f(t). This is confirmed here as
% the laplace transform of f(t) is F(s) = 1/(s-1)^2 and G(s) is e^(-a*s) * F(s)
```

Solving IVPs using Laplace transforms

Consider the following IVP, $y'' - 3y' = 5t$ with the initial conditions $y(0)=1$ and $y'(0)=2$. We can use MATLAB to solve this problem using Laplace transforms:

```
% First we define the unknown function and its variable and the Laplace
% transform of the unknown
```

```
syms y(t) t Y s
```

```
% Then we define the ODE
```

```
ODE=diff(y(t),t,2)-3*y(t)-5*t == 0
```

ODE =

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} y(t) - 5t - 3y(t) = 0$$

```
% Now we compute the Laplace transform of the ODE.
```

```
L_ODE = laplace(ODE)
```

L_ODE =

$$s^2 \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s) - s y(0) - \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} y(t) \right) \Big|_{t=0} \right) - \frac{5}{s^2} - 3 \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s) = 0$$

```
% Use the initial conditions
```

```
L_ODE=subs(L_ODE,y(0),1)
```

L_ODE =

$$s^2 \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s) - s - \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} y(t) \right) \Big|_{t=0} \right) - \frac{5}{s^2} - 3 \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s) = 0$$

```
L_ODE=subs(L_ODE,subs(diff(y(t), t), t, 0),2)
```

L_ODE =

$$s^2 \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s) - s - \frac{5}{s^2} - 3 \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s) - 2 = 0$$

```
% We then need to factor out the Laplace transform of |y(t)|
```

```
L_ODE = subs(L_ODE,laplace(y(t), t, s), Y)
```

L_ODE =

$$Y s^2 - s - 3Y - \frac{5}{s^2} - 2 = 0$$

```
Y=solve(L_ODE,Y)
```

Y =

$$\frac{s + \frac{5}{s^2} + 2}{s^2 - 3}$$

```
% We now need to use the inverse Laplace transform to obtain the solution  
% to the original IVP
```

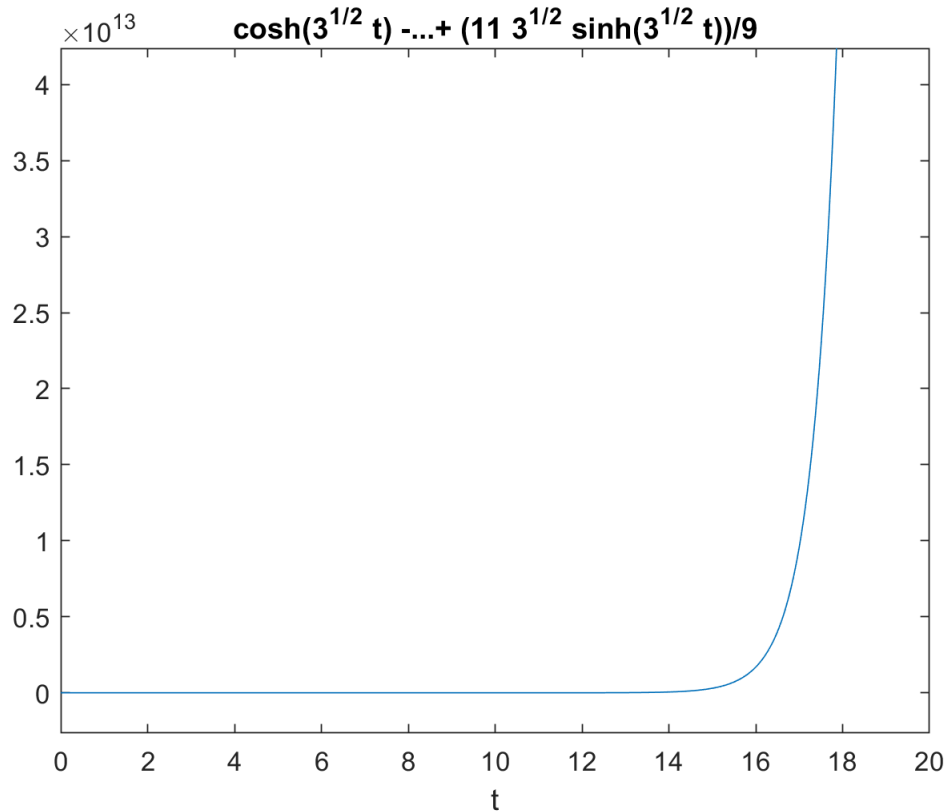
```
y = ilaplace(Y)
```

y =

$$\cosh(\sqrt{3} t) - \frac{5t}{3} + \frac{11\sqrt{3}}{9} \sinh(\sqrt{3} t)$$

```
% We can plot the solution
```

```
ezplot(y,[0,20])
```



```
% We can check that this is indeed the solution
```

```
diff(y,t,2)-3*y
```

```
ans = 5 t
```

Exercise 3

Objective: Solve an IVP using the Laplace transform

Details: Explain your steps using comments

- Solve the IVP
- $y'''' + 2y'' + y' + 2y = -\cos(t)$
- $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$, and $y''(0) = 0$
- for t in $[0, 10\pi]$
- Is there an initial condition for which y remains bounded as t goes to infinity? If so, find it.


```

clc;
close all;
clear;

% Declaring variables to be used
syms y(t) t Y s

% define the ODE

ODE=diff(y(t),t,3) + 2*diff(y(t),t,2) + diff(y(t),t,1) + 2*y(t) + cos(t) == 0

```

ODE =

$$\frac{\partial^3}{\partial t^3} y(t) + 2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} y(t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} y(t) + \cos(t) + 2 y(t) = 0$$

```
% laplace transform of the ODE.
```

```
L_ODE = laplace(ODE)
```

L_ODE =

$$s \sigma_1 - y(0) - 2 s y(0) - s \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} y(t) \right) \Big|_{t=0} \right) + \frac{s}{s^2 + 1} + 2 s^2 \sigma_1 + s^3 \sigma_1 - 2 \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} y(t) \right) \Big|_{t=0} \right) - s^2 y(0) - \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} y(t) \right) \Big|_{t=0} \right)$$

where

$$\sigma_1 = \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s)$$

```
% initial conditions
```

```
L_ODE=subs(L_ODE,y(0),0)
```

L_ODE =

$$s \sigma_1 - s \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} y(t) \right) \Big|_{t=0} \right) + \frac{s}{s^2 + 1} + 2 s^2 \sigma_1 + s^3 \sigma_1 - 2 \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} y(t) \right) \Big|_{t=0} \right) - \left(\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} y(t) \right) \Big|_{t=0} \right) + 2 \sigma_1 = 0$$

where

$$\sigma_1 = \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s)$$

```
L_ODE=subs(L_ODE,subs(diff(y(t), t), t, 0),0)
```

L_ODE =

$$s \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s) + \frac{s}{s^2 + 1} + 2 s^2 \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s) + s^3 \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s) - \left(\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} y(t) \right) \Big|_{t=0} \right) + 2 \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s)$$

```
L_ODE=subs(L_ODE,subs(diff(y(t), t, 2), t, 0),0)
```

L_ODE =

$$s \text{ laplace}(y(t), t, s) + \frac{s}{s^2 + 1} + 2 s^2 \text{ laplace}(y(t), t, s) + s^3 \text{ laplace}(y(t), t, s) + 2 \text{ laplace}(y(t), t, s) = 0$$

```
% factor out the Laplace transform of |y(t)|
```

```
L_ODE = subs(L_ODE,laplace(y(t), t, s), Y)
```

```
L_ODE =
```

$$2 Y + Y s + \frac{s}{s^2 + 1} + 2 Y s^2 + Y s^3 = 0$$

```
Y=solve(L_ODE,Y)
```

```
Y =
```

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

```
% Assign y the solution to the inverse laplace transform
```

```
y = ilaplace(Y)
```

```
y =
```

$$\frac{2 e^{-2 t}}{25} - \frac{2 \cos(t)}{25} + \frac{3 \sin(t)}{50} + \frac{t \cos(t)}{10} - \frac{t \sin(t)}{5}$$

```
% plot the solution
```

```
ezplot(y,[0,10*pi])
```

```
title("y'''+2y''+y'+2*y=-cos(t), y(0) = 0, y'(0)=0, y''(0)=0");
```

```
ylabel('y');
```

```
xlabel('t');
```

```
% there is no solution that bounds y as t goes to infinty, the function  
% oscillates with increasing magnitude regardless of where it starts.
```

Exercise 4

Objective: Solve an IVP using the Laplace transform

Details:

- Define
- $g(t) = 3$ if $0 < t < 2$
- $g(t) = t+1$ if $2 < t < 5$
- $g(t) = 5$ if $t > 5$
- Solve the IVP
- $y'''+2y''+5y=g(t)$
- $y(0)=2$ and $y'(0)=1$

- Plot the solution for t in $[0, 12]$ and y in $[0, 2.25]$.

In your answer, explain your steps using comments.

```

clc;
close all;
clear;

% Declaring variables to be used
syms y(t) t Y s

% defining g(t) using heaviside functions, each subsequent
% function needs to account for the value set by the previous;
% the last term is the sum of previous terms that gives a constant 5
u0(t) = heaviside(t);
u2(t) = heaviside(t-2);
u5(t) = heaviside(t-5);

g(t) = 3*u0(t)+(t-2)*u2(t)+(-t+4)*u5(t);

% define the ODE
ODE = diff(y(t),t,2) + 2*diff(y(t),t) + 5*y(t) - g(t) == 0

```

ODE =

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} y(t) + 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial t} y(t) - 3 \operatorname{heaviside}(t) + 5 y(t) - \operatorname{heaviside}(t-2) (t-2) + \operatorname{heaviside}(t-5) (t-4) = 0$$

```
% laplace transform of the ODE.
```

```
L_ODE = laplace(ODE)
```

L_ODE =

$$2 s \sigma_1 - 2 y(0) - s y(0) - \frac{e^{-2s}}{s^2} + s^2 \sigma_1 - \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} y(t) \right) \Big|_{t=0} \right) - \frac{3}{s} + \frac{e^{-5s} (s+1)}{s^2} + 5 \sigma_1 = 0$$

where

$$\sigma_1 = \operatorname{laplace}(y(t), t, s)$$

```
% initial conditions
```

```
L_ODE=subs(L_ODE,y(0),2)
```

L_ODE =

$$2 s \operatorname{laplace}(y(t), t, s) - 2 s - \frac{e^{-2s}}{s^2} + s^2 \operatorname{laplace}(y(t), t, s) - \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} y(t) \right) \Big|_{t=0} \right) - \frac{3}{s} + \frac{e^{-5s} (s+1)}{s^2} + 5 \operatorname{laplace}(y$$

```
L_ODE=subs(L_ODE,subs(diff(y(t), t), t, 0),1)
```

L_ODE =

$$2 s \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s) - 2 s - \frac{e^{-2 s}}{s^2} + s^2 \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s) - \frac{3}{s} + \frac{e^{-5 s} (s + 1)}{s^2} + 5 \text{laplace}(y(t), t, s) - 5 = 0$$

% factor out the Laplace transform of |y(t)|

L_ODE = subs(L_ODE,laplace(y(t), t, s), Y)

L_ODE =

$$5 Y - 2 s + 2 Y s - \frac{e^{-2 s}}{s^2} + Y s^2 - \frac{3}{s} + \frac{e^{-5 s} (s + 1)}{s^2} - 5 = 0$$

Y=solve(L_ODE,Y)

Y =

$$\frac{2 s + \frac{e^{-2 s}}{s^2} + \frac{3}{s} - \frac{e^{-5 s} (s + 1)}{s^2} + 5}{s^2 + 2 s + 5}$$

% Assign y the solution to the inverse laplace transform

y = ilaplace(Y)

y =

$$\text{heaviside}(t - 2) \left(\frac{t}{5} + \frac{2 e^{2-t} \left(\cos(2 t - 4) - \frac{3 \sin(2 t - 4)}{4} \right)}{25} - \frac{12}{25} \right) - \text{heaviside}(t - 5) \left(\frac{t}{5} + \frac{2 e^{5-t} \left(\sigma_3 - \right)}{25} \right)$$

where

$$\sigma_1 = \frac{\sin(2 t)}{2}$$

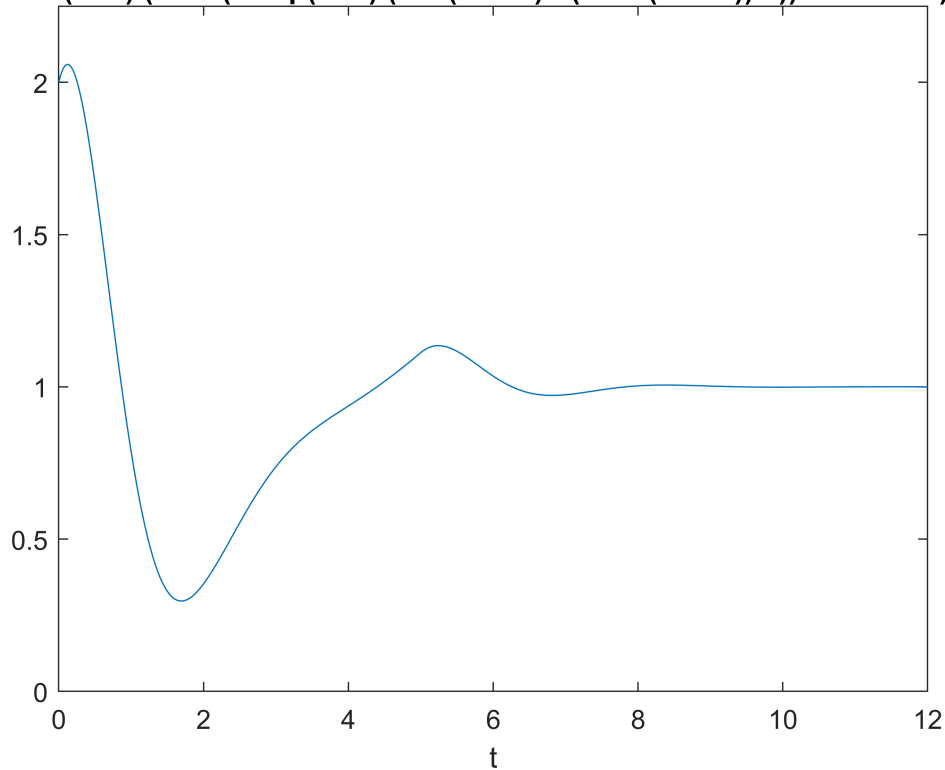
$$\sigma_2 = \sin(2 t - 10)$$

$$\sigma_3 = \cos(2 t - 10)$$

% plot the solution

ezplot(y, [0,12, 0, 2.25])

heaviside(t - 2) (t/5 + (2 exp(2 - t) (cos(2 t - 4) - (3 sin(2 t - 4))/4))/25 - 12/25) -...+ 3



% there is no solution that bounds y as t goes to infinity, the function
% oscillates with increasing magnitude regardless of where it starts.

Exercise 5

Objective: Use the Laplace transform to solve an integral equation

Verify that MATLAB knows about the convolution theorem by explaining why the following transform is computed correctly.

```
clc;
close all;
clear;

syms t tau y(tau) s
I=int(exp(-2*(t-tau))*y(tau),tau,0,t)
```

I =

$$\int_0^t e^{2\tau-2t} y(\tau) d\tau$$

```
laplace(I,t,s)
```

ans =

$$\frac{\text{laplace}(y(t), t, s)}{s + 2}$$

```
% By definition, I is the convolution of e^(2\tau - 2t) and y(\tau)
% so the laplace transform of I is the product of the laplace transform
% of y(\tau) and e^(2\tau - 2t). The laplace transform of y is given on the
% numerator and the laplace transform of e^(2\tau - 2t) is 1/(s+2).
```