

Section 14: Inverse Laplace Transforms

Now we wish to go *backwards*: Given $F(s)$ can we find a function $f(t)$ such that $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$?

If so, we'll use the following notation

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\} = f(t) \quad \text{provided} \quad \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s).$$

We'll call $f(t)$ an **inverse Laplace transform** of $F(s)$.

A Table of Inverse Laplace Transforms

- ▶ $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s} \right\} = 1$
- ▶ $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}} \right\} = t^n$, for $n = 1, 2, \dots$
- ▶ $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s-a} \right\} = e^{at}$
- ▶ $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2+k^2} \right\} = \cos kt$
- ▶ $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{k}{s^2+k^2} \right\} = \sin kt$

The inverse Laplace transform is also linear so that

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \{ \alpha F(s) + \beta G(s) \} = \alpha f(t) + \beta g(t)$$

Example: Evaluate

$$(c) \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s-8}{s^2-2s} \right\}$$

will use a partial fraction
decomp.

$$\frac{s-8}{s^2-2s} = \frac{s-8}{s(s-2)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s-2}$$

$$s-8 = A(s-2) + Bs$$

set $s=0$

$$0-8 = A(-2) + B \cdot 0 \Rightarrow -8 = -2A \Rightarrow A=4$$

set $s=2$

$$2-8 = A(0) + B(2) \Rightarrow -6 = 2B \Rightarrow B=-3$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{s-0}{s^2-2s}\right\} = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{4}{s} - \frac{3}{s-2}\right\}$$

$$= 4 \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s}\right\} - 3 \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s-2}\right\}$$

$$= 4 \cdot 1 - 3 e^{2t}$$

$\frac{1}{s-a}$ for
 $a=2$

Section 15: Shift Theorems

Suppose we wish to evaluate $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{2}{(s-1)^3} \right\}$. Does it help to know that $\mathcal{L} \{t^2\} = \frac{2}{s^3}$?

By definition $\mathcal{L} \{e^t t^2\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} e^t t^2 dt$

Note:

$$e^{-st} \cdot e^t = e^{-st+t} = e^{-(s-1)t}$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(s-1)t} t^2 dt$$

$\frac{2}{w^3}$ from the table $\leftarrow = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-wt} t^2 dt$ if $w=s-1$

Observe that this is simply the Laplace transform of $f(t) = t^2$ evaluated at $s-1$. Letting $F(s) = \mathcal{L} \{t^2\}$, we have

$$F(s-1) = \frac{2}{(s-1)^3}.$$

Theorem (translation in s)

Suppose $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$. Then for any real number a

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at}f(t)\} = F(s - a).$$

For example,

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^n\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}} \implies \mathcal{L}\{e^{at}t^n\} = \frac{n!}{(s-a)^{n+1}}.$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\cos(kt)\} = \frac{s}{s^2 + k^2} \implies \mathcal{L}\{e^{at}\cos(kt)\} = \frac{s-a}{(s-a)^2 + k^2}.$$

Inverse Laplace Transforms (completing the square)

$$(a) \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2 + 2s + 2} \right\}$$

Q: Does the denominator factor?
If yes - do partial fractions
If no - complete the square

$s^2 + 2s + 2$ is irreducible

$$s^2 + 2s + 1 - 1 + 2 = (s+1)^2 + 1$$

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

Note $s = s+1-1$

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

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

$$\begin{aligned}k &= 1 \\ a &= -1\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}k &= 1 \\ a &= -1\end{aligned}$$

$$= e^{-t} \cos t - e^{-t} \sin t$$

From table: $\mathcal{L}\{\cos(kt)\} = \frac{s}{s^2+k^2}$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\sin(kt)\} = \frac{k}{s^2+k^2}$$

Inverse Laplace Transforms (repeat linear factors)

(b) $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1+3s-s^2}{s(s-1)^2}\right\}$ Partial fractions

$$\frac{-s^2+3s+1}{s(s-1)^2} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s-1} + \frac{C}{(s-1)^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} -s^2+3s+1 &= A(s-1)^2 + Bs(s-1) + Cs \\ &= A(s^2-2s+1) + B(s^2-s) + Cs \end{aligned}$$

$$= \underline{(A+B)}s^2 + \underline{(-2A-B+C)}s + \underline{A}$$

$$A=1$$

$$-2A - B + C = 3$$

$$C = 3 + B + 2A = 3 - 2 + 2 = 3$$

$$A + B = -1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad B = -1 - A = -2$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1 + 3s - s^2}{s(s-1)^2} \right\} = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s} - \frac{2}{s-1} + \frac{3}{(s-1)^2} \right\}$$

$$= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s} \right\} - 2 \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s-1} \right\} + 3 \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s-1)^2} \right\}$$

looks like

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2} \right\}$$

$$= 1 - 2e^t + 3e^t t$$

$$F(s-1) = \frac{1}{(s-1)^2} \quad \text{what is } F(s)?$$