

A Look Ahead: Solving IVPs

If $f(t)$ is defined on $[0, \infty)$, is differentiable, and has Laplace transform $F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$, then*

$$\mathcal{L}\{f'(t)\} = sF(s) - f(0)$$

Use this result to solve the initial value problem

$$y'(t) + 2y(t) = 4, \quad y(0) = 1$$

Take \mathcal{L} of the ODE

* See the worksheet 12.

$$y'(t) + 2y(t) = 4, \quad y(0) = 1$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{y' + 2y\} = \mathcal{L}\{4\}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{y'\} + 2\mathcal{L}\{y\} = 4\mathcal{L}\{1\}$$

$$\text{Let } \mathcal{L}\{y(t)\} = Y(s)$$

$$sY(s) - y(0) + 2Y(s) = \frac{4}{s}$$

Isolate $Y(s)$

$$sY(s) - 1 + 2Y(s) = \frac{4}{s}$$

$$sY(s) + 2Y(s) = \frac{4}{s} + 1$$

$$(s+2)Y(s) = \frac{4+s}{s}$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{4+s}{s(s+2)}$$

This is the transform
of the solution to
the IVP

$$\text{Find } y(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1} [Y(s)].$$

Partial fractions

$$\frac{4+s}{s(s+2)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s+2}$$

Clear
fractions

$$4+s = A(s+2) + Bs$$

Set $s=0$:

$$4 + 0 = A(0 + 2) \Rightarrow A = 2$$

$$\text{Set } s = -2 \quad 4 - 2 = B(-2) \Rightarrow B = -1$$

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

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

The solution to the IVP is

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

$$y'(t) + 2y(t) = 4, \quad y(0) = 1$$

Check the IC: $y(0) = 2 - e^0 = 2 - 1 = 1 \quad \checkmark$

Check ODE: $y' = 2e^{-2t}$

$$\begin{aligned} y' + 2y &\stackrel{?}{=} 4 \\ 2e^{-2t} + 2(2 - e^{-2t}) &\stackrel{?}{=} 4 \\ 2e^{-2t} + 4 - 2e^{-2t} &\stackrel{?}{=} 4 \\ 4 &= 4 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

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 $\mathcal{L} \{t^2\} = \frac{2}{s^3}$?

Note that by definition

$$\begin{aligned} e^{\downarrow t} \mathcal{L} \{ e^{\uparrow t} t^2 \} &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} e^t t^2 dt \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(s-1)t} t^2 dt \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-wt} t^2 dt \\ &= \frac{2!}{w^3} = \frac{2!}{(s-1)^3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-st} e^t &= e^{-st+t} \\ &= e^{-(s-1)t} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Let } w = s-1$$

Shift (or translation) in s .

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

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

We can state this in terms of the inverse transform. If $F(s)$ has an inverse Laplace transform, then

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s - a)\} = e^{at}\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\}.$$

We call this a **translation** (or a **shift**) in s theorem.

Example:

Suppose $f(t)$ is a function whose Laplace transform¹

$$F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{s^2 + 9}}$$

Evaluate

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{-2t}f(t)\} = F(s - (-2)) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(s+2)^2 + 9}}$$

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

¹It's not in our table, but this is an actual function known as a *Bessel function*.

Examples: Evaluate

$$(a) \mathcal{L}\{t^6 e^{3t}\} = \frac{6!}{(s-3)^7}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^6\} = \frac{6!}{s^7} = F(s) \quad a=3 \quad F(s-3)$$

$$(b) \mathcal{L}\{e^{-t} \cos(t)\} = \frac{s+1}{(s+1)^2 + 1}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\cos t\} = \frac{s}{s^2 + 1^2} \quad a=-1 \quad F(s-(-1)) = F(s+1)$$

$$(c) \mathcal{L}\{e^{-t} \sin(t)\} = \frac{1}{(s+1)^2 + 1}$$

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

Inverse Laplace Transforms (completing the square)

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

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

Complete the square

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

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

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

Looks like

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

We need $s+1$ in place of every s .

$$s = s+1-1$$

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

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

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

$$= e^{-t} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{s}{s^2+1} \right] - e^{-t} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{s^2+1} \right]$$

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