

Section 12: LRC Series Circuits

Potential Drops Across Components:

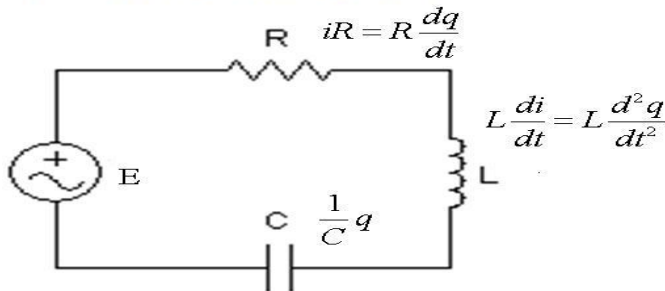


Figure: Kirchhoff's Law: The charge q on the capacitor satisfies $Lq'' + Rq' + \frac{1}{C}q = E(t)$.

This is a second order, linear, constant coefficient nonhomogeneous (if $E \neq 0$) equation.

LRC Series Circuit (Free Electrical Vibrations)

$$L \frac{d^2 q}{dt^2} + R \frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{1}{C} q = 0$$

If the applied force $E(t) = 0$, then the **electrical vibrations** of the circuit are said to be **free**. These are categorized as

overdamped if $R^2 - 4L/C > 0$, (2 real roots)

critically damped if $R^2 - 4L/C = 0$, (1 real root)

underdamped if $R^2 - 4L/C < 0$. (complex roots)

Steady and Transient States

Given a nonzero applied voltage $E(t)$, we obtain an IVP with nonhomogeneous ODE for the charge q

$$Lq'' + Rq' + \frac{1}{C}q = E(t), \quad q(0) = q_0, \quad q'(0) = i_0.$$

From our basic theory of linear equations we know that the solution will take the form

$$q(t) = q_c(t) + q_p(t).$$

The function of q_c is influenced by the initial state (q_0 and i_0) and will decay exponentially as $t \rightarrow \infty$. Hence q_c is called the **transient state charge** of the system.

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The function q_p is independent of the initial state but depends on the characteristics of the circuit (L , R , and C) and the applied voltage E . q_p is called the **steady state charge** of the system.

Example

An LRC series circuit has inductance 0.5 h, resistance 10 ohms, and capacitance $4 \cdot 10^{-3}$ f. Find the steady state current of the system if the applied force is $E(t) = 5 \cos(10t)$.

The ODE for the charge is

$$0.5q'' + 10q' + \frac{1}{4 \cdot 10^{-3}}q = 5 \cos(10t) \implies q'' + 20q' + 500q = 10 \cos(10t).$$

The characteristic equation $r^2 + 20r + 500 = 0$ has roots $r = -10 \pm 20i$. To determine q_p we can assume

$$q_p = A \cos(10t) + B \sin(10t)$$

which does not duplicate solutions of the homogeneous equation (such duplication would only occur if the roots above were $r = \pm 10i$).

Example Continued...

Working through the details, we find that $A = 1/50$ and $B = 1/100$.
The steady state charge is therefore

$$q_p = \frac{1}{50} \cos(10t) + \frac{1}{100} \sin(10t).$$

The steady state current

$$i_p = \frac{dq_p}{dt} = -\frac{1}{5} \sin(10t) + \frac{1}{10} \cos(10t).$$

Section 13: The Laplace Transform

A quick word about functions of 2-variables:

Suppose $G(s, t)$ is a function of two independent variables (s and t) defined over some rectangle in the plane $a \leq t \leq b$, $c \leq s \leq d$. If we compute an integral with respect to one of these variables, say t ,

$$\int_{\alpha}^{\beta} G(s, t) dt$$

- ▶ the result is a function of the remaining variable s , and
- ▶ the variable s is treated as a constant while integrating with respect to t .

For Example...

Assume that $s \neq 0$ and $b > 0$. Compute the integral

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^b e^{-st} dt &= \frac{1}{-s} e^{-st} \Big|_0^b \\ &= -\frac{1}{s} e^{-bs} + \frac{1}{s} e^0 \\ &= \frac{1}{s} (1 - e^{-bs})\end{aligned}$$

This is a function of the variable s .

Integral Transform

An **integral transform** is a mapping that assigns to a function $f(t)$ another function $F(s)$ via an integral of the form

$$\int_a^b K(s, t)f(t) dt.$$

- ▶ The function K is called the **kernel** of the transformation.
- ▶ The limits a and b may be finite or infinite.
- ▶ The integral may be improper so that convergence/divergence must be considered.
- ▶ This transform is **linear** in the sense that

$$\int_a^b K(s, t)(\alpha f(t) + \beta g(t)) dt = \alpha \int_a^b K(s, t)f(t) dt + \beta \int_a^b K(s, t)g(t) dt.$$

The Laplace Transform

Definition: Let $f(t)$ be defined on $[0, \infty)$. The Laplace transform of f is denoted and defined by

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt = F(s).$$

The domain of the transformation $F(s)$ is the set of all s such that the integral is convergent.

Note: The **kernel** for the Laplace transform is $K(s, t) = e^{-st}$.

Limits at Infinity e^{-st}

If $s > 0$, evaluate

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{-st} = 0$$

If $s > 0$, then $-st \rightarrow -\infty$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

If $s < 0$, evaluate

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{-st} = \infty$$

If $s < 0$, then $-st \rightarrow \infty$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

Find the Laplace transform of $f(t) = 1$

It is readily seen that if $s = 0$, the integral $\int_0^\infty e^{-st} dt$ is divergent. Otherwise¹

$$\mathcal{L}\{1\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} dt = -\frac{1}{s} e^{-st} \Big|_0^\infty$$

Convergence in the limit $t \rightarrow \infty$ requires $s > 0$. In this case, we have

$$\mathcal{L}\{1\} = -\frac{1}{s}(0 - 1) = \frac{1}{s}.$$

So we have the transform along with its domain

$$\mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{s}, \quad s > 0.$$

¹The integral is improper. We are in reality evaluating an integral of the form $\int_0^b e^{-st} f(t) dt$ and then taking the limit $b \rightarrow \infty$. We suppress some of the notation here with the understanding that this process is implied.

Find the Laplace transform of $f(t) = t$

Using the definition $\mathcal{L}\{t\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} t dt$. It's again easy to see that the integral diverges if $s = 0$. Otherwise, we can integrate by parts

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} t dt = -\frac{1}{s} t e^{-st} \Big|_0^{\infty} - \int_0^{\infty} -\frac{1}{s} e^{-st} dt$$

For $s > 0$, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} t e^{-st} = 0$. So with the condition that $s > 0$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t\} = 0 + \frac{1}{s} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} dt = \frac{1}{s} \mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{s^2}$$

So we have the transform along with its domain

$$\mathcal{L}\{t\} = \frac{1}{s^2}, \quad s > 0.$$

A piecewise defined function

Find the Laplace transform of f defined by

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 2t, & 0 \leq t < 10 \\ 0, & t \geq 10 \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt = \int_0^{10} 2te^{-st} dt + \int_{10}^{\infty} 0 \cdot e^{-st} dt$$

For $s \neq 0$, integration by parts gives

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \frac{2}{s^2} - \frac{2e^{-10s}}{s^2} - \frac{20e^{-10s}}{s}.$$

When $s = 0$, the value $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}|_{s=0} = 100$.

So we have the transform along with its domain

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{s^2} - \frac{2e^{-10s}}{s^2} - \frac{20e^{-10s}}{s}, & s \neq 0 \\ 100, & s = 0 \end{cases}$$

The Laplace Transform is a Linear Transformation

Some basic results include:

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

$$\blacktriangleright \mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{s}, \quad s > 0$$

$$\blacktriangleright \mathcal{L}\{t^n\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}, \quad s > 0 \text{ for } n = 1, 2, \dots$$

$$\blacktriangleright \mathcal{L}\{e^{at}\} = \frac{1}{s-a}, \quad s > a$$

$$\blacktriangleright \mathcal{L}\{\cos kt\} = \frac{s}{s^2+k^2}, \quad s > 0$$

$$\blacktriangleright \mathcal{L}\{\sin kt\} = \frac{k}{s^2+k^2}, \quad s > 0$$

Evaluate the Laplace transform $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$ if

(a) $f(t) = \cos(\pi t)$

$$\text{Use } \mathcal{L}\{\cos kt\} = \frac{s}{s^2 + k^2}, \quad s > 0$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\cos \pi t\} = \frac{s}{s^2 + \pi^2}$$

Evaluate the Laplace transform $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$ if

$$(b) \quad f(t) = 2t^4 - e^{-5t} + 3$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{2t^4 - e^{-5t} + 3\} &= 2\mathcal{L}\{t^4\} - \mathcal{L}\{e^{-5t}\} + 3\mathcal{L}\{1\} \\ &= 2\frac{4!}{s^{4+1}} - \frac{1}{s - (-5)} + 3\frac{1}{s} \\ &= \frac{48}{s^5} - \frac{1}{s+5} + \frac{3}{s}\end{aligned}$$

Evaluate the Laplace transform $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$ if

(c) $f(t) = (2-t)^2$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} &= \mathcal{L}\{4 - 4t + t^2\} = 4\mathcal{L}\{1\} - 4\mathcal{L}\{t\} + \mathcal{L}\{t^2\} \\ &= \frac{4}{s} - \frac{4}{s^2} + \frac{2}{s^3}\end{aligned}$$

Sufficient Conditions for Existence of $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$

Definition: Let $c > 0$. A function f defined on $[0, \infty)$ is said to be of *exponential order* c provided there exists positive constants M and T such that $|f(t)| < Me^{ct}$ for all $t > T$.

Definition: A function f is said to be *piecewise continuous* on an interval $[a, b]$ if f has at most finitely many jump discontinuities on $[a, b]$ and is continuous between each such jump.

Sufficient Conditions for Existence of $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$

Theorem: If f is piecewise continuous on $[0, \infty)$ and of exponential order c for some $c > 0$, then f has a Laplace transform for $s > c$.

An example of a function that is NOT of exponential order for any c is $f(t) = e^{t^2}$. Note that

$$f(t) = e^{t^2} = (e^t)^t \implies |f(t)| > e^{ct} \quad \text{whenever } t > c.$$

This is a function that doesn't have a Laplace transform. We won't be dealing with this type of function here.