

Differential Equations

Today's Topic: Inverse Laplace Transforms

Dr. E. Jacobs

$$\mathcal{L} \left(e^{\lambda t} t^n \right) = \frac{n!}{(s - \lambda)^{n+1}}$$

$$\mathcal{L} \left(\sin \omega t \right) = \frac{\omega}{s^2 + \omega^2}$$

$$\mathcal{L} \left(\cos \omega t \right) = \frac{s}{s^2 + \omega^2}$$

$$\mathcal{L} \left(e^{\lambda t} \sin \omega t \right) = \frac{\omega}{(s - \lambda)^2 + \omega^2}$$

$$\mathcal{L} \left(e^{\lambda t} \cos \omega t \right) = \frac{s - \lambda}{(s - \lambda)^2 + \omega^2}$$

If $\mathcal{L}(f(t)) = F(s)$ then $f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}(F(s))$.

$$\mathcal{L}(\sin 4t) = \frac{4}{s^2 + 16} \quad \text{so} \quad \sin 4t = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{4}{s^2 + 16}\right)$$

$$\mathcal{L}(e^t t^3) = \frac{6}{(s-1)^4} \quad \text{so} \quad e^t t^3 = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{6}{(s-1)^4}\right)$$

$$\mathcal{L}((af(t) + bg(t))) = a\mathcal{L}(f(t)) + b\mathcal{L}(g(t))$$

Will inverse Laplace transforms also be linear?

Let $F(s) = \mathcal{L}(f(t))$ and $G(s) = \mathcal{L}(g(t))$.
 $f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}(F(s))$ and $g(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}(G(s))$.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}((af(t) + bg(t))) &= a\mathcal{L}(f(t)) + b\mathcal{L}(g(t)) \\ &= aF(s) + bG(s)\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}^{-1}(aF(s) + bG(s)) &= af(t) + bg(t) \\ &= a\mathcal{L}^{-1}(F(s)) + b\mathcal{L}^{-1}(G(s))\end{aligned}$$

Example:

Find the inverse Laplace transform of:

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

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

Example:

Find the inverse Laplace transform of

$$\frac{1}{(s-1)^4}$$

Start with the general formula:

$$\mathcal{L}(t^n e^{\lambda t}) = \frac{n!}{(s-\lambda)^{n+1}}$$

$$\mathcal{L} \left(t^n e^{\lambda t} \right) = \frac{n!}{(s - \lambda)^{n+1}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{(s - 1)^4} \right) &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{6}{(s - 1)^4} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left(\frac{6}{(s - 1)^4} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{6} e^t t^3 \end{aligned}$$

Example:

Find the inverse Laplace transform of

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

Start by checking the table of Laplace transforms:

$$\mathcal{L}(e^{\lambda t} t^n) = \frac{n!}{(s-\lambda)^{n+1}}$$

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

$$\mathcal{L}(\cos \omega t) = \frac{s}{s^2 + \omega^2}$$

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

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

Partial Fractions Decomposition:

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

Solve for a and b

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

Use linearity to get the inverse Laplace transform:

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

$$\mathcal{L} \left(e^{\lambda t} \right) = \frac{1}{s - \lambda}$$

Therefore:

$$\mathcal{L} \left(1 \right) = \mathcal{L} \left(e^{0t} \right) = \frac{1}{s}$$

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

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

Example:

Find the inverse Laplace transform of

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

Start with a partial fractions decomposition:

$$\frac{s^2 + 3}{(s + 1)(s^2 + 1)} = \frac{a}{s + 1} + \frac{bs + c}{s^2 + 1}$$

Solve for a , b and c

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{s^2 + 3}{(s + 1)(s^2 + 1)} &= \frac{2}{s + 1} + \frac{-s + 1}{s^2 + 1} \\ &= \frac{2}{s + 1} + \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} - \frac{s}{s^2 + 1}\end{aligned}$$

Look up the formulas on the Laplace transform table:

$$\mathcal{L}(\cos \omega t) = \frac{s}{s^2 + \omega^2} \qquad \mathcal{L}(\sin \omega t) = \frac{\omega}{s^2 + \omega^2}$$

Use linearity to get \mathcal{L}^{-1}

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left(\frac{s^2 + 3}{(s + 1)(s^2 + 1)} \right) &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left(\frac{2}{s + 1} + \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} - \frac{s}{s^2 + 1} \right) \\ &= 2\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{s + 1} \right) + \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{s^2 + 1} \right) - \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left(\frac{s}{s^2 + 1} \right) \\ &= 2e^{-t} + \sin t - \cos t\end{aligned}$$

How does all of this help us to solve differential equations?

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

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}(f'(t)) &= \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f'(t) dt \\
&= 0 - f(0) + s \int_0^\infty f(t) e^{-st} dt \\
&= s \int_0^\infty f(t) e^{-st} dt - f(0)
\end{aligned}$$

Let $y = f(t)$

$$\mathcal{L}(y') = s\mathcal{L}(y) - y(0)$$

Example:

Use the identity $\mathcal{L}(y') = s\mathcal{L}(y) - y(0)$ to solve the differential equation:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + y = 2 \sin t \quad \text{where } y(0) = 1$$

The procedure is to take the Laplace transform of both sides of the equation and solve for $\mathcal{L}(y)$.

$$\mathcal{L}(y' + y) = \mathcal{L}((2 \sin t))$$

$$\mathcal{L}(y') + \mathcal{L}(y) = 2\mathcal{L}(\sin t)$$

$$s\mathcal{L}(y) - y(0) + \mathcal{L}(y) = 2 \left(\frac{1}{s^2 + 1} \right)$$

Note: Your textbook writes $\mathcal{L}(y)$ as $Y(s)$ so:

$$sY(s) - y(0) + Y(s) = 2 \left(\frac{1}{s^2 + 1} \right)$$

$$s\mathcal{L}(y) - y(0) + \mathcal{L}(y) = 2 \left(\frac{1}{s^2 + 1} \right)$$

$$(s + 1)\mathcal{L}(y) = y(0) + \frac{2}{s^2 + 1} = 1 + \frac{2}{s^2 + 1} = \frac{s^2 + 3}{s^2 + 1}$$

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

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

$$y = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left(\frac{s^2 + 3}{(s + 1)(s^2 + 1)} \right) = 2e^{-t} + \sin t - \cos t$$