

A few more Laplace transforms

Example $\mathcal{L}\{t\} = \int_0^{\infty} t e^{-st} dt$

We could integrate by parts or just notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\infty} t e^{-st} dt &= -\frac{d}{ds} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} dt \\ &= -\frac{d}{ds} \left(\frac{1}{s} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{s^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Similarly } \mathcal{L}\{t^2\} &= \int_0^{\infty} t^2 e^{-st} dt \\ &= -\frac{d}{ds} \int_0^{\infty} t e^{-st} dt \\ &= -\frac{d}{ds} \left(\frac{1}{s^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{2}{s^3} \end{aligned}$$

If you keep doing this, you find

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^n\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$$

A useful rule If $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ then $\mathcal{L}\{e^{at} f(t)\} = F(s-a)$

Proof
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}\{e^{at} f(t)\} &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} e^{at} f(t) dt \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(s-a)t} f(t) dt \\ &= F(s-a) \end{aligned}$$

Example $\mathcal{L}\{t e^{at}\} = F(s-a)$ where $F(s) = \frac{1}{s^2}$

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

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

Example $\mathcal{L}\{e^t \sin 2t\} = F(s-1)$

where $F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{\sin 2t\} = \frac{2}{s^2+4}$

so $\mathcal{L}\{e^t \sin 2t\} = \frac{2}{(s-1)^2+4}$

Applications to the Solution of Differential Equations (5.4)

We make use of:

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$$

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

$$\mathcal{L}\{f''(t)\} = s^2F(s) - sf(0) - f'(0)$$

etc.

Example

$$y^{(iv)} - y = 0, \quad y(0)=1, \quad y'(0)=y''(0)=y'''(0)=0$$

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

$$s^4 Y - s^3 y(0) - s^2 y'(0) - s y''(0) - y'''(0) - Y = 0$$

$$(s^4 - 1)Y = s^3$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{s^3}{s^4 - 1} = \frac{s^3}{(s^2-1)(s^2+1)} = \frac{s^3}{(s-1)(s+1)(s^2+1)}$$

So write

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

$$s^3 = A(s+1)(s^2+1) + B(s-1)(s^2+1) + (Cs+D)(s-1)(s+1)$$

Let $s=1$ $1 = A \cdot 4$ so $A = \frac{1}{4}$

$s=-1$ $-1 = B \cdot (-4)$ so $B = \frac{1}{4}$

coeff s^3 $1 = A + B + C$ $C = 1/2$

coeff 1 $0 = A - B - D$ $D = 0$

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

$$y(t) = \frac{1}{4}e^t + \frac{1}{4}e^{-t} + \frac{1}{2}\cos t$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}\cosh t + \frac{1}{2}\cos t$$

Note $s^2+1 = (s+i)(s-i)$ so we could have used

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

Example

$$x'' - 4x' - 5x = e^{-t}$$

$$x(0) = x'(0) = 0$$

Let $X(s) = \mathcal{L}\{x(t)\}$

$$(s^2 - 4s - 5)X(s) = \frac{1}{s+1}$$

$$(s-5)(s+1)X(s) = \frac{1}{s+1}$$

$$X(s) = \frac{1}{(s-5)(s+1)^2} = \frac{A}{s-5} + \frac{B}{s+1} + \frac{C}{(s+1)^2}$$

Multiply by $(s-5)(s+1)^2$

$$1 = A(s+1)^2 + B(s-5)(s+1) + C(s-5)$$

Let $s = -1$ $1 = -6C$ so $C = -\frac{1}{6}$

Let $s = 5$ $1 = 36A$ so $A = \frac{1}{36}$

coefficient of s^2 : $0 = A + B$ so $B = -\frac{1}{36}$

$$X(s) = \frac{1}{36} \frac{1}{s-5} - \frac{1}{36} \frac{1}{s+1} - \frac{1}{6} \frac{1}{(s+1)^2}$$

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{36} e^{5t} - \frac{1}{36} e^{-t} - \frac{1}{6} t e^{-t}$$