

MATH 2132 §16.3 and 16.4.

Example: Use Laplace transforms to solve

$$y'' + y = f(t), \quad \text{where } y(0) = y'(0) = 0$$

and

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} \cos t & \text{if } 0 < t < \frac{3\pi}{2} \\ \sin t & \text{if } t > \frac{3\pi}{2} \end{cases}$$

Solution: We write $f(t)$ using step functions, and

get

$$f(t) = \cos t (1 - h(t - \frac{3\pi}{2})) + \sin t (h(t - \frac{3\pi}{2}))$$

Then

Step 1: Take \mathcal{L}_e of both sides.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_e\{y''\} + \mathcal{L}_e\{y\} &= \mathcal{L}_e\{\cos t\} - \mathcal{L}_e\{h(t - \frac{3\pi}{2})\cos t\} \\ &\quad + \mathcal{L}_e\{h(t - \frac{3\pi}{2})\sin t\} \end{aligned}$$

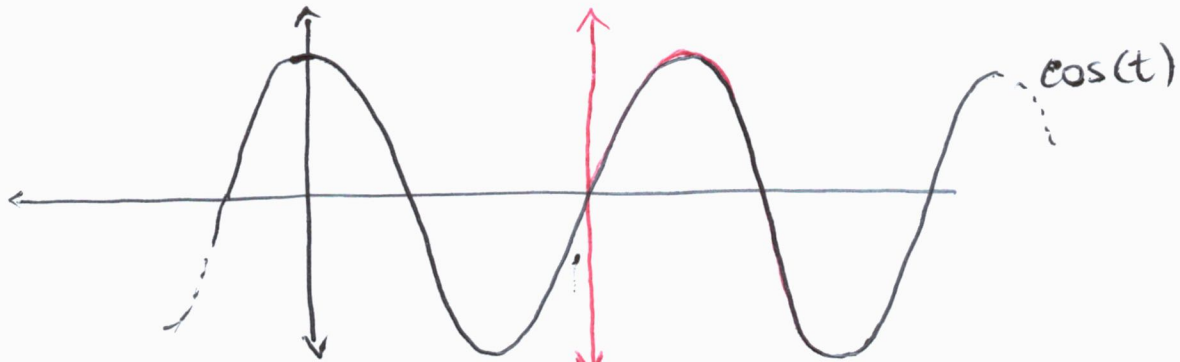
$$\begin{aligned} s^2 Y(s) - s y(0) - y'(0) + Y(s) &= \frac{s}{s^2 + 1} - e^{-\frac{3\pi}{2}s} \mathcal{L}_e\{\cos(t + \frac{3\pi}{2})\} \\ &\quad + e^{-\frac{3\pi}{2}s} \mathcal{L}_e\{\sin(t + \frac{3\pi}{2})\} \end{aligned}$$

Now, to take \mathcal{L}_e of the shifted sines/cosines we need to simplify them:

$$\cos(t + \frac{3\pi}{2}) = \sin(t), \quad \sin(t + \frac{3\pi}{2}) = -\cos(t)$$

These follow from either

- ① The angle sum formulas, or
- ② The graphs. E.g. graph $\cos(t + \frac{3\pi}{2})$.



This is where the y-axis would be if $\cos(t)$ were shifted to give $\cos(t + \frac{3\pi}{2})$. In this way we get the graph of $\sin t$

So now Laplace transforms give:

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

and then Step 2 Solve for $Y(s)$:

$$Y(s) = \frac{s}{(s^2+1)^2} - e^{-\frac{3\pi}{2}s} \left(\frac{1}{(s^2+1)^2} + \frac{s}{(s^2+1)^2} \right).$$

So now

Step 3: Calculate \mathcal{L}^{-1} of $Y(s)$.

Here, we're actually stuck!

When you do partial fractions, you get four ~~three~~ kinds of terms:

① $\frac{1}{s-a} \rightsquigarrow$ inverse Laplace gives exponentials

② $\frac{1}{(s-a)^k} \rightsquigarrow$ inverse Laplace gives exponentials multiplied by powers of t .

③ $\frac{1}{as^2+bs+c}$, where as^2+bs+c has no real roots

Then inverse Laplace gives sines/cosines by completing the square.

④ "Rarely," you also get

$\frac{1}{(as^2+bs+c)^k}$, where as^2+bs+c has no real roots.

There is nothing we have learned so far that deals with this. Moreover, as our last example showed, this situation can arise naturally.

Convolution: From Merriam-Webster:

"something that is very complicated and difficult to understand" (that about sums it up).

Convolution is a way of calculating the inverse Laplace transform of a product of two functions, like

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

Suppose that $g(t)$ has Laplace transform $G(s)$ and $f(t)$ has Laplace transform $F(s)$. Then

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)G(s)\} = \int_0^t f(u)g(t-u)du.$$

The right hand side above is called "the convolution of f and g " and the integral is usually denoted $f * g$:

$$f * g = \int_0^t f(u)g(t-u)du$$

Example: Calculate the convolution of \sin and \cos .

Solution: The integral is

$$\cos(t) * \sin(t) = \int_0^t \cos(u)\sin(t-u)du$$

$$\text{use } \sin(t-u) = \sin t \cos u - \sin u \cos t$$

$$\text{So } = \int_0^t \cos u (\sin t \cos u - \sin u \cos t) du$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{So } f * g &= \int_0^t \sin t \cos^2 u - \cos t \sin u \cos u \, du \\
 &= \int_0^t \sin t \cos^2 u \, du - \int_0^t \cos t \sin u \cos u \, du \\
 &= \sin t \int_0^t \cos^2 u \, du - \cos t \int_0^t \sin u \cos u \, du \\
 &\quad \begin{array}{l} \nearrow \\ \cos^2 u = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos 2u) \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{l} \text{set } v = \sin u \\ \Rightarrow dv = \cos u \, du \end{array} \\
 &= \frac{\sin t}{2} \int_0^t (1 + \cos 2u) \, du - \cos t \int_0^{\sin t} v \, dv. \\
 &= \text{some work and some trig identities} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} t \sin t.
 \end{aligned}$$

So, this means that if

$F(s) = \frac{s}{s^2+1}$ is the Laplace transform of cosine and

$G(s) = \frac{1}{s^2+1}$ is the Laplace transform of sine

$$\text{Then } \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)G(s)\} = f * g \text{ so}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} t \sin t.$$

So, if we return to our original problem we are stuck at

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

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

with what we have so far, this becomes

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

$$- h\left(t - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(t - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right) \underbrace{\sin\left(t - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right)}_{\cos(t)} \right)$$

So all that's missing to finish the problem is

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

$$= \sin t * \sin t$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (\sin t - t \cos t)$$

And then we get

$$y(t) = \frac{1}{2} t \sin t - h\left(t - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{2} \overbrace{\sin\left(t - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right)}^{\cos(t)} - \left(t - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right) \overbrace{\cos\left(t - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right)}^{\cos(t)} \right) \\ - h\left(t - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(t - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right) \cos(t) \right)$$

Convolution is not always so bad, and in fact can be downright easy in some cases.

Example: Compute $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s(s^2+1)}\right\}$.

Solution: We can do this by partial fractions, or we can do:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2+1}\right\} &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s}\right\} * \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s^2+1}\right\} \\ &= 1 * \sin t \\ &= \int_0^t 1 \cdot \sin u \, du \\ &= \left[-\cos u\right]_0^t \\ &= -\cos(t) - (-\cos(0)) \\ &= 1 - \cos(t). \end{aligned}$$

§16.3-4 Convolution continued.

Last day and yesterday in the tutorial, we saw that

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)G(s)\} = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\} * \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{G(s)\}$$

where the convolution formula is

$$f * g = \int_0^t f(u)g(t-u)du.$$

Something that I've said but not formally checked yet is that "*" behaves like multiplication.

Formally, the following things are true:

(i) $f * g = g * f$

(ii) $(kf) * g = f * (kg) = k(f * g)$, k any constant

(iii) $(f * g) * h = f * (g * h)$

(iv) $f * (g+h) = f * g + f * h$.

Each of these formulas, technically, should be checked. Here's how that would go: let's check (i), for example:

$$f * g = \int_0^t f(u)g(t-u)du$$

then set $v = t - u$, so $dv = -du$.

when $u=0$, then $v=t-0=t$

and when $u=t$, $v=t-t=0$.

So our integral becomes

$$\int_t^0 f(v-t)g(v)(-dv)$$
$$= \int_0^t f(v-t)g(v)dv = g * f$$

switch order
if you want it to
look like the formula.

Example: Solve

$y'' - 4y' + 5y = 2e^t + 4$, $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$
using Laplace transforms and convolution.

Solution: Since we'll be using convolution, let's
leave $\mathcal{L}\{2e^t + 4\}$ and not evaluate it. That
means we get:

Step 1: Take \mathcal{L} of both sides.

$$\mathcal{L}\{y''\} - 4\mathcal{L}\{y'\} + 5\mathcal{L}\{y\} = \mathcal{L}\{2e^t + 4\}$$

$$s^2Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0) - 4(sY(s) - y(0)) + 5Y(s) = \mathcal{L}\{2e^t + 4\}$$

$$\Rightarrow (s^2 - 4s + 5) Y(s) + \text{bunch of zeroes} = \mathcal{L}\{2e^t + 4\}.$$

Step 2 Solve for $Y(s)$.

$$Y(s) = \mathcal{L}\{2e^t + 4\} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 - 4s + 5}.$$

Step 3 Calculate \mathcal{L}^{-1} of $Y(s)$.

Since it's a quadratic on the bottom, we check if it factors:

$$b^2 - 4ac = (-4)^2 - 4(1)(5) = 16 - 20 = -4,$$

so no, it doesn't factor. So we complete the square:

$$\frac{1}{s^2 - 4s + 5} = \frac{1}{(s-2)^2 + 1} \quad \text{and then the table entries}$$

with $(s-2)^2 + 1$ as denominator are... wait, one of them

$$\text{is } \frac{1}{(s-2)^2 + 1}!$$

We calculate $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s-2)^2 + 1}\right\} = e^{2t} \sin t$. So

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\mathcal{L}\{2e^t + 4\} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 - 4s + 5}\right\}$$

$$= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{\mathcal{L}\{2e^t + 4\}\} * \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s^2 - 4s + 5}\right\}$$

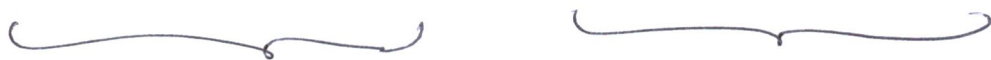
$$= (2e^t + 4) * e^{2t} \sin t.$$

$$= 2e^t * e^{2t} \sin t + 4 * e^{2t} \sin t$$

$$= 2(e^t * e^{2t} \sin t) + 4(1 * e^{2t} \sin t)$$

$$= 2 \int_0^t e^{2u} \sin u \cdot e^{t-u} du + 4 \int_0^t e^{2u} \sin u du$$

$$= 2e^t \int_0^t e^u \sin u du + 4 \int_0^t e^{2u} \sin u du.$$



Each of these can be evaluated using the double integration by parts trick that I showed before.

$$= 2e^t \left[\frac{1}{2} e^u (\sin u - \cos u) \right]_0^t + 4 \left[\frac{1}{5} e^{2u} (2 \sin u - \cos u) \right]_0^t$$

$$= 2e^t \left[\frac{1}{2} e^t (\sin t - \cos t) + \frac{1}{2} \right] + \frac{4}{5} \left[e^{2t} (2 \sin t - \cos t) + 1 \right]$$

$$= \frac{13}{5} e^{2t} \sin t - \frac{9}{5} e^{2t} \cos t + e^t + \frac{4}{5}$$

If you're really excited about this: go back to the start of the previous example and solve it the "traditional" way, check that you get the same thing.

Example: Find the general solution to

$$y'' + 3y' + 2y = e^t f(t),$$

where $f(t)$ is a continuous function. Express your answer as an integral.

Solution: We proceed as before:

Step 1: Take \mathcal{L} of both sides.

$$\mathcal{L}\{y''\} + 3\mathcal{L}\{y'\} + 2\mathcal{L}\{y\} = \mathcal{L}\{e^t f(t)\}$$

$$s^2 Y(s) + s y(0) - y'(0) + 3(sY(s) - y(0)) + 2Y(s) = \mathcal{L}\{e^t f(t)\}.$$

Since we are solving for a general solution we replace $y(0)$ with C_1 , $y'(0)$ with C_2 :

$$(s^2 + 3s + 2)Y(s) - C_1 s - C_2 - 3C_1 = \mathcal{L}\{e^t f(t)\}.$$

Step 2: Solve for $Y(s)$.

$$Y(s) = \mathcal{L}\{e^t f(t)\} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + 3s + 2} + \frac{C_1 s + C_2 + 3C_1}{s^2 + 3s + 2}.$$

Step 3: Take \mathcal{L}^{-1} .

Here we need to know

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

$$\Rightarrow 1 = As + 2A + Bs + B$$

$$\Rightarrow A+B=0$$

$$2A+B=1 \Rightarrow 2A-A=1, A=1, B=-1.$$

$$\text{So } \frac{1}{s^2+3s+2} = \frac{1}{s+1} - \frac{1}{s+2} \text{ and}$$

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

and therefore

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \mathcal{L} \{ e^t f(t) \} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2+3s+2} \right\}$$

$$= e^t f(t) * (e^{-t} - e^{-2t}) = \int_0^t e^u f(u) (e^{-(t-u)} - e^{-2(t-u)}) du.$$

Then to finish we need

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ (c_1(s+3) + c_2) \left(\frac{1}{s^2+3s+2} \right) \right\}.$$

As with many exercises in the book, this is unexpectedly very difficult. If you use

$$(c_1(s+3) + c_2) \left(\frac{1}{s^2+3s+2} \right)$$

$$= c_1 \left(\frac{2}{s+1} - \frac{1}{s+2} \right) + c_2 \left(\frac{1}{s+1} - \frac{1}{s+2} \right)$$

Then it's possible to take \mathcal{L}^{-1} and get

$$2c_1 e^{-t} - c_1 e^{-2t} + c_2 e^{-t} - c_2 e^{-2t}.$$

$$= (2c_1 + c_2)e^{-t} - (c_1 + c_2)e^{-2t}$$

which allows us to "replace constants" and get the general solution

$$y(t) = \int_0^t e^u f(u) (e^{-(t-u)} - e^{-2(t-u)}) du \quad \} y_p$$

$$+ D_1 e^{-t} + D_2 e^{-2t} \quad \} y_h$$
