

Class 16 Laplace Transforms

Reminder:
Dean's Lecture tomorrow
11 am, JSB Auditorium
Dr. L. Douglas Smoot
Energy & Climate Change



Laplace Transforms

- Important analytical method for solving *linear* ordinary differential equations.
 - Application to nonlinear ODEs? Must linearize first.
- Laplace transforms play a key role in important process control concepts and techniques.
 - Examples:
 - Transfer functions
 - Frequency response
 - Control system design
 - Stability analysis

2

Definition

The Laplace transform of a function, $f(t)$, is defined as

$$F(s) = \mathcal{L}[f(t)] = \int_0^{\infty} f(t) e^{-st} dt \quad (3-1)$$

where $F(s)$ is the symbol for the Laplace transform, \mathcal{L} is the Laplace transform operator, and $f(t)$ is some function of time, t .

Note: The \mathcal{L} operator transforms a time domain function $f(t)$ into an s domain function, $F(s)$. s is a *complex variable*:
 $s = a + bj, \quad j = \sqrt{-1}$

3

Inverse Laplace Transform, \mathcal{L}^{-1} :

By definition, the inverse Laplace transform operator, \mathcal{L}^{-1} , converts an s -domain function back to the corresponding time domain function:

$$f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[F(s)]$$

Important Properties:

Both \mathcal{L} and \mathcal{L}^{-1} are *linear operators*. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}[ax(t) + by(t)] &= a\mathcal{L}[x(t)] + b\mathcal{L}[y(t)] \\ &= aX(s) + bY(s) \end{aligned} \quad (3-3)$$

4

where:

- $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ are arbitrary functions
- a and b are constants
- $X(s) = \mathcal{L}[x(t)]$ and $Y(s) = \mathcal{L}[y(t)]$

Similarly,

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}[aX(s) + bY(s)] = ax(t) + by(t)$$

5

Laplace Transforms of Common Functions

1. Constant Function

Let $f(t) = a$ (a constant). Then from the definition of the Laplace transform in (3-1),

$$\mathcal{L}(a) = \int_0^{\infty} a e^{-st} dt = \left. \frac{a}{s} e^{-st} \right|_0^{\infty} = 0 - \left(-\frac{a}{s} \right) = \boxed{\frac{a}{s}} \quad (3-4)$$

6

2. Step Function

The unit step function is widely used in the analysis of process control problems. It is defined as:

$$S(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } t < 0 \\ 1 & \text{for } t \geq 0 \end{cases} \quad (3-5)$$

Because the step function is a special case of a “constant”, it follows from (3-4) that

$$\mathcal{L}[S(t)] = \frac{1}{s} \quad (3-6)$$

7

3. Derivatives

This is a very important transform because derivatives appear in the ODEs we wish to solve. In the text (p.41), it is shown that

$$\mathcal{L}\left[\frac{df}{dt}\right] = sF(s) - f(0) \quad (3-9)$$

↑ initial condition at $t = 0$

Similarly, for higher order derivatives:

$$\mathcal{L}\left[\frac{d^n f}{dt^n}\right] = s^n F(s) - s^{n-1} f(0) - s^{n-2} f^{(1)}(0) - \dots - sf^{(n-2)}(0) - f^{(n-1)}(0) \quad (3-14)$$

First derivative

8

where:

- n is an arbitrary positive integer

$$f^{(k)}(0) = \left. \frac{d^k f}{dt^k} \right|_{t=0}$$

Special Case: All Initial Conditions are Zero

Suppose $f(0) = f^{(1)}(0) = \dots = f^{(n-1)}(0)$. Then

$$\mathcal{L}\left[\frac{d^n f}{dt^n}\right] = s^n F(s)$$

In process control problems, we usually assume zero initial conditions. *Reason:* This corresponds to the nominal steady state when “deviation variables” are used, as shown in Ch. 4.

9

4. Exponential Functions

Consider $f(t) = e^{-bt}$ where $b > 0$. Then,

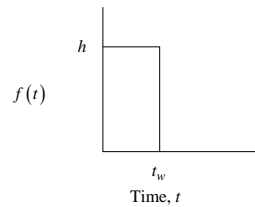
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}[e^{-bt}] &= \int_0^\infty e^{-bt} e^{-st} dt = \int_0^\infty e^{-(b+s)t} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{b+s} \left[-e^{-(b+s)t} \right]_0^\infty = \frac{1}{s+b} \end{aligned} \quad (3-16)$$

5. Rectangular Pulse Function

It is defined by:

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } t < 0 \\ h & \text{for } 0 \leq t < t_w \\ 0 & \text{for } t \geq t_w \end{cases} \quad (3-20)$$

10



The Laplace transform of the rectangular pulse is given by

$$F(s) = \frac{h}{s} (1 - e^{-t_w s}) \quad (3-22)$$

11

6. Impulse Function (or Dirac Delta Function)

The impulse function is obtained by taking the limit of the rectangular pulse as its width, t_w , goes to zero but holding the area under the pulse constant at one. (i.e., let $h = \frac{1}{t_w}$)

Let, $\delta(t) = \text{impulse function}$

Then, $\mathcal{L}[\delta(t)] = 1$

12

Table 3.1. Laplace Transforms

See page 42 of the text.

$f(t)$	$F(s)$
1. $\delta(t)$ (unit impulse)	1
2. $U(t)$ (unit step)	$\frac{1}{s}$
3. t (ramp)	$\frac{1}{s^2}$
4. t^{n-1}	$\frac{(n-1)!}{s^n}$
5. e^{-bt}	$\frac{1}{s+b}$
6. $\frac{1}{n!} t^n e^{-bt}$	$\frac{1}{(s+b)^{n+1}}$
7. $\frac{t^n}{n!} e^{-bt}$ ($n \geq 0$)	$\frac{1}{(s+b)^{n+1}}$
8. $\frac{t^n}{n!} e^{-bt} \cos(kt)$	$\frac{1}{(s+b)^2 + k^2}$
9. $\frac{1}{b_1 - b_2} (e^{-b_1 t} - e^{-b_2 t})$	$\frac{1}{(s+b_1)(s+b_2)}$
10. $\frac{1}{b_1 - b_2} (e^{-b_1 t} - e^{-b_2 t})$	$\frac{1}{(s+b_1)(s+b_2)}$
11. $\frac{b_2 - b_1}{b_2 - b_1} e^{-b_1 t} + \frac{b_1 - b_2}{b_2 - b_1} e^{-b_2 t}$	$\frac{s+b_1}{(s+b_1)(s+b_2)} + \frac{s+b_2}{(s+b_1)(s+b_2)}$
12. $\frac{1}{b_1 - b_2} e^{-b_1 t} + \frac{1}{b_2 - b_1} e^{-b_2 t}$	$\frac{1}{(s+b_1)(s+b_2)}$
13. $1 - e^{-bt}$	$\frac{1}{s(s+b)}$

13

Laplace table (cont.)

14. $\sin at$	$\frac{a}{s^2 + a^2}$	23. $1 + \frac{b_1 - b_2}{b_1 - b_2} e^{-b_1 t} + \frac{b_2 - b_1}{b_1 - b_2} e^{-b_2 t}$	$\frac{1}{s(s+b)}$
15. $\cos at$	$\frac{s}{s^2 + a^2}$		
16. $\sin at \cos bt$	$\frac{a \cos bt + b \sin bt}{s^2 + a^2 + b^2}$	24. $\frac{d}{dt} f(t)$	$sF(s) - f(0)$
17. $e^{-bt} \sin at$	$\frac{a}{(s+b)^2 + a^2}$	25. $\frac{d^2}{dt^2} f(t)$	$s^2 F(s) - s f(0) - f'(0)$
18. $e^{-bt} \cos at$	$\frac{s+b}{(s+b)^2 + a^2}$	26. $f(t - a)U(t - a)$	$e^{-as} F(s)$
19. $\frac{1}{n!} t^n e^{-bt} \sin(kt)$ ($n \geq 0$)	$\frac{1}{(s+b)^2 + k^2}$		
20. $1 + \frac{1}{n!} t^n (e^{-b_1 t} - e^{-b_2 t})$ ($n \geq 0$)	$\frac{1}{s(s+b_1)(s+b_2)}$		
21. $1 - \frac{1}{n!} t^n \cos(kt)$ ($n \geq 0$)	$\frac{1}{s(s^2 + k^2)}$		
22. $1 - e^{-bt} \cos(kt)$ ($b \geq 0$)	$\frac{1}{s(s^2 + k^2)}$		

14

Practice

- a. 1000 $S(t)$ (Step function with a magnitude of 1000)

$$\frac{1000}{s}$$

- b. $5e^{-2t} + \sin 4t + 5$

$$\frac{5}{s+2} + \frac{4}{s^2+16} + \frac{5}{s}$$

- c. $\frac{d^3 y}{dt^3}$ where $\left(\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2}\right)_{t=0} = 0$, $\left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)_{t=0} = 2$, $y(0) = 3$

$$s^3 F(s) - s^2(3) - s(2) - 0 = s^3 F(s) - 3s^2 - s$$

15

Solution of ODEs by Laplace Transforms

Procedure:

1. Take the L of both sides of the ODE.
2. Rearrange the resulting algebraic equation in the s domain to solve for the L of the output variable, e.g., $Y(s)$.
3. Perform a partial fraction expansion.
4. Use the L^{-1} to find $y(t)$ from the expression for $Y(s)$.

16

Practice

Solve the following equation:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + 3y = e^{-2t} \quad y(0) = 2$$

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

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

$$(s+3)Y(s) = 2 + \frac{1}{s+2} = \frac{2s+4+1}{s+2} = \frac{2s+5}{s+2}$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{2s+5}{(s+2)(s+3)} = \frac{2(s+5/2)}{(s+2)(s+3)}$$

Use #11 in Table 3.1

Check Answer:

$$y(0) = 1 + 1 = 2$$

$$y'(t) = -2e^{-2t} - 3e^{-3t}$$

$$3y(t) = 3e^{-2t} + 3e^{-3t}$$

$$y'(t) + 3y(t) = e^{-2t}$$

$$y(t) = 2 \left[\left(\frac{5/2-2}{3-2} \right) e^{-2t} + \left(\frac{5/2-2}{3-2} \right) e^{-3t} \right]$$

$$y(t) = e^{-2t} + e^{-3t}$$

17

Partial Fraction Expansions

Basic idea: Expand a complex expression for $Y(s)$ into simpler terms, each of which appears in the Laplace Transform table. Then you can take the L^{-1} of both sides of the equation to obtain $y(t)$.

Example:

$$Y(s) = \frac{s+5}{(s+1)(s+4)} \quad (3-41)$$

Perform a partial fraction expansion (PFE)

$$\frac{s+5}{(s+1)(s+4)} = \frac{\alpha_1}{s+1} + \frac{\alpha_2}{s+4} \quad (3-42)$$

where coefficients α_1 and α_2 have to be determined.

18

To find α_1 : Multiply both sides by $s + 1$ and let $s = -1$

$$\therefore \alpha_1 = \left. \frac{s+5}{s+4} \right|_{s=-1} = \frac{4}{3}$$

To find α_2 : Multiply both sides by $s + 4$ and let $s = -4$

$$\therefore \alpha_2 = \left. \frac{s+5}{s+1} \right|_{s=-4} = -\frac{1}{3}$$

19

A General PFE

Consider a general expression,

$$Y(s) = \frac{N(s)}{D(s)} = \frac{N(s)}{\prod_{i=1}^n (s + b_i)} \quad (3-46a)$$

Here $D(s)$ is an n -th order polynomial with the roots ($s = -b_i$) all being *real* numbers which are *distinct* so there are no repeated roots.

The PFE is:

$$Y(s) = \frac{N(s)}{\prod_{i=1}^n (s + b_i)} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\alpha_i}{s + b_i} \quad (3-46b)$$

Note: $D(s)$ is called the “characteristic polynomial”.

20

Special Situations:

Two other types of situations commonly occur when $D(s)$ has:

- i) Complex roots: e.g., $b_i = 3 \pm 4j$ ($j = \sqrt{-1}$)
- ii) Repeated roots (e.g., $b_1 = b_2 = -3$)

For these situations, the PFE has a different form. See SEM text (pp. 47-48) for details.

21

Partial Fraction Example

$$\frac{12s^2 + 22s + 6}{s(s+1)(s+2)} = \frac{\alpha_1}{s} + \frac{\alpha_2}{s+1} + \frac{\alpha_3}{s+2} = \frac{3}{s} + \frac{4}{s+1} + \frac{5}{s+2}$$

To get α_1 , multiply both sides by s and set $s = 0$

$$\frac{s(12s^2 + 22s + 6)}{s(s+1)(s+2)} = \frac{s\alpha_1}{s} + \frac{s\alpha_2}{s+1} + \frac{s\alpha_3}{s+2}$$

$$\frac{(12 \cdot 0^2 + 22 \cdot 0 + 6)}{(0+1)(0+2)} = \alpha_1 = 6/2 = 3$$

$$\text{Now get } \alpha_2: \frac{(12 \cdot (-1)^2 + 22 \cdot (-1) + 6)}{(-1)((-1)+2)} = \alpha_2 = \frac{-4}{-1} = 4$$

$$\text{Finally get } \alpha_3: \frac{(12 \cdot (-2)^2 + 22 \cdot (-2) + 6)}{(-2)((-2)+1)} = \alpha_3 = \frac{10}{-2} = -5$$

So now solve for $f(t)$:

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

22

Repeated Factors

$$F(s) = \frac{s+1}{(s+3)^2} = \frac{\alpha_1}{s+3} + \frac{\alpha_2}{(s+3)^2}$$

How do you get α_1 and α_2 ?

Multiply out denominators and match “like” powers of s .

$$\frac{(s+1)(s+3)^2}{(s+3)^2} = \frac{\alpha_1(s+3)^2}{s+3} + \frac{\alpha_2(s+3)^2}{(s+3)^2}$$

$$(s+1) = \alpha_1(s+3) + \alpha_2 = s(\alpha_1) + (3\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)$$

Therefore, $\alpha_1 = 1$, and $3\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = 1$. This means that $\alpha_2 = -2$.

$$\text{So } F(s) = \frac{s+1}{(s+3)^2} = \frac{1}{s+3} + \frac{-2}{(s+3)^2}$$

$$\text{Inverting } f(t) = e^{-3t} - 2te^{-3t}$$

23

Additional Notes

1. Final value theorem (Eq. 3-81)

$$y(\infty) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} [sY(s)]$$

2. Initial value theorem (Eq. 3-82)

$$y(0) = \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} [sY(s)]$$

3. Time delay
(Real Translation Theorem, Eq. 3-96)

$$G(s) = L\{f(t-t_0)S(t-t_0)\} = e^{-st_0} F(s)$$

24

More Practice

Practice: Write the Laplace form of a function that does the doublet test,
 (a) changing at $t=0$ to a value of 2,
 (b) changing to a value of -2 at $t = 3$ min, and
 (c) changing to a value of 0 at $t = 6$ min.

$$\frac{2}{s} + e^{-3s} \left(\frac{-4}{s} \right) + e^{-6s} \left(\frac{2}{s} \right)$$

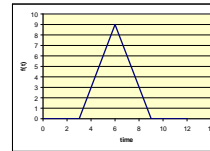
25

More Practice

Write the time domain form of the following Laplace function and sketch it:

$$e^{-3s} \frac{3}{s^2} - e^{-6s} \frac{6}{s^2} + e^{-9s} \frac{3}{s^2}$$

$$3(t-3)[S(t-3)] - 6(t-6)[S(t-6)] + 3(t-9)[S(t-9)]$$



26

More Practice

Determine the final value of the following function:

$$F(s) = \frac{12s^2 + 22s + 6}{s(s+1)(s+2)}$$

$$F(s=0) = \frac{s(12s^2 + 22s + 6)}{s(s+1)(s+2)} = \frac{(6)}{(1)(2)} = 3$$

27

Extra

28

Example 3.1

Solve the ODE,

$$5 \frac{dy}{dt} + 4y = 2 \quad y(0) = 1 \quad (3-26)$$

First, take L of both sides of (3-26),

$$5(sY(s) - 1) + 4Y(s) = \frac{2}{s}$$

Rearrange,

$$Y(s) = \frac{5s+2}{s(5s+4)} \quad (3-34)$$

Take L^{-1} ,

$$y(t) = L^{-1} \left[\frac{5s+2}{s(5s+4)} \right]$$

From Table 3.1,

$$y(t) = 0.5 + 0.5e^{-0.8t} \quad (3-37)$$

How do you get (3-37)?

29

Partial Fraction Expansion

$$y(t) = L^{-1} \left[\frac{5s+2}{s(5s+4)} \right]$$

$$\frac{5s+2}{s(5s+4)} = \frac{s + \frac{2}{5}}{s \left(s + \frac{4}{5} \right)} = \frac{s+0.4}{s(s+0.8)}$$

$$\frac{s+0.4}{s(s+0.8)} = \frac{s}{s(s+0.8)} + \frac{0.4}{s(s+0.8)} = \frac{1}{(s+0.8)} + \frac{0.4}{s(s+0.8)}$$

$$L^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s+0.8)} + \frac{0.4}{s(s+0.8)} \right\} = e^{-0.8t} + 0.4 \left[\frac{1}{-0.8} (e^{-0.8t} - 1) \right]$$

$$= e^{-0.8t} - 0.5[e^{-0.8t} - 1] = 0.5 + 0.5e^{-0.8t}$$

(#9 in table with b1 = 0)

30

Example 3.2 (continued)

Recall that the ODE, $\ddot{y} + 6\dot{y} + 11y = 1$ with zero initial conditions resulted in the expression

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s(s^3 + 6s^2 + 11s + 6)} \quad (3-40)$$

The denominator can be factored as

$$s(s^3 + 6s^2 + 11s + 6) = s(s+1)(s+2)(s+3) \quad (3-50)$$

Note: Normally, numerical techniques are required in order to calculate the roots.

The PFE for (3-40) is

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s(s+1)(s+2)(s+3)} = \frac{\alpha_1}{s} + \frac{\alpha_2}{s+1} + \frac{\alpha_3}{s+2} + \frac{\alpha_4}{s+3} \quad (3-51)$$

31

Solve for coefficients to get

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{1}{6}, \quad \alpha_2 = -\frac{1}{2}, \quad \alpha_3 = \frac{1}{2}, \quad \alpha_4 = -\frac{1}{6}$$

(For example, find α_1 by multiplying both sides by s and then setting $s = 0$.)

Substitute numerical values into (3-51):

$$Y(s) = \frac{1/6}{s} - \frac{1/2}{s+1} + \frac{1/2}{s+2} + \frac{1/6}{s+3}$$

Take \mathcal{L}^{-1} of both sides:

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}[Y(s)] = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1/6}{s}\right] - \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1/2}{s+1}\right] + \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1/2}{s+2}\right] + \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left[\frac{1/6}{s+3}\right]$$

From Table 3.1,

$$y(t) = \frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{2}e^{-t} + \frac{1}{2}e^{-2t} - \frac{1}{6}e^{-3t} \quad (3-52)$$

32

Important Properties of Laplace Transforms*1. Final Value Theorem*

It can be used to find the steady-state value of a closed loop system (providing that a steady-state value exists).

Statement of FVT:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y(t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} [sY(s)]$$

providing that the limit exists (is finite) for all $\text{Re}(s) \geq 0$, where $\text{Re}(s)$ denotes the real part of complex variable, s .

33

Example:

Suppose,

$$Y(s) = \frac{5s+2}{s(5s+4)} \quad (3-34)$$

Then,

$$y(\infty) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y(t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{5s+2}{5s+4} \right] = 0.5$$

34