

Chapter 7. Laplace Transforms.

Example 1. Find $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{-5s - 36}{(s + 2)(s^2 + 9)} \right\}$.

SOLUTION. Since $s + 2$ is nonrepeated linear factor and $s^2 + 9$ is the irreducible quadratic factor, the partial fraction expansion has the form

$$\frac{-5s - 36}{(s + 2)(s^2 + 9)} = \frac{A}{s + 2} + \frac{Bs + C}{s^2 + 9} = \frac{A(s^2 + 9) + (Bs + C)(s + 2)}{(s + 2)(s^2 + 9)}.$$

$$-5s - 36 = A(s^2 + 9) + (Bs + C)(s + 2).$$

Let's put in last equation $s = -2$, $s = 0$, and $s = 1$.

$$s = -2: \quad -26 = 13A$$

$$s = 0: \quad -36 = 9A + 2C$$

$$s = 1: \quad -41 = 9A + 3B + 3C$$

Thus, $A = -2$, $B = 2$, and $C = -9$. So,

$$\frac{-5s - 36}{(s + 2)(s^2 + 9)} = -\frac{2}{s + 2} + \frac{2s - 9}{s^2 + 9}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{-5s - 36}{(s + 2)(s^2 + 9)} \right\} &= -2\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s + 2} \right\} + \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{2s - 9}{s^2 + 9} \right\} = \\ &= -2e^{-2t} + 2\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2 + 9} \right\} - 3\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{3}{s^2 + 9} \right\} = -2e^{-2t} + 2 \cos 3t - 3 \sin 3t. \end{aligned}$$

Section 7.5 Solving initial value problems.

To solve an initial value problem:

- Take the Laplace transform of both sides of the equation.
- Use the properties of the Laplace transform and the initial conditions to obtain an equation for the Laplace transform of the solution and then solve this equation for the transform.
- Determine the inverse Laplace transform of the solution.

Important formulas:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}\{y'\}(s) &= s\mathcal{L}\{y\}(s) - y(0) \\ \mathcal{L}\{y''\}(s) &= s^2\mathcal{L}\{y\}(s) - sy(0) - y'(0) \end{aligned}$$

Example 2. Solve the initial value problem

$$y'' + 6y' + 5y = 12e^t, \quad y(0) = -1, \quad y'(0) = 7.$$

Take the Laplace transform of both sides of the equation.

$$\mathcal{L}\{y'' + 6y' + 5y\} = \mathcal{L}\{12e^t\}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{y'' + 6y' + 5y\} = \mathcal{L}\{y''\} + 6\mathcal{L}\{y'\} + 5\mathcal{L}\{y\}.$$

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

$$\mathcal{L}\{y'\}(s) = sY(s) - y(0) = sY(s) + 1$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{y''\}(s) = s^2Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0) = s^2Y(s) + s - 7$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{y'' + 6y' + 5y\} = \mathcal{L}\{y''\} + 6\mathcal{L}\{y'\} + 5\mathcal{L}\{y\} = (s^2 + 6s + 5)Y(s) + s - 1.$$

Note, that coefficient of $Y(s)$ is the corresponding auxiliary equation to the equation $y'' + 6y' + 5y = 0$.

Since

$$\mathcal{L}\{12e^t\} = \frac{12}{s-1},$$

we have

$$(s^2 + 6s + 5)Y(s) + s - 1 = \frac{12}{s-1}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} Y(s) &= \frac{12 - (s-1)^2}{(s-1)(s^2 + 6s + 5)} = \frac{12 - (s-1)^2}{(s-1)(s+1)(s+5)} = \frac{A}{s-1} + \frac{B}{s+1} + \frac{C}{s+5} = \\ &= \frac{A(s+1)(s+5) + B(s-1)(s+5) + C(s-1)(s+1)}{(s-1)(s+1)(s+5)}. \end{aligned}$$

$$12 - (s-1)^2 = A(s+1)(s+5) + B(s-1)(s+5) + C(s-1)(s+1).$$

To determine A , B , and C let's plug $s = 1$, $s = -1$, and $s = -5$ in last equation.

$$\begin{aligned} s = 1 : & \quad 12 = 12A \\ s = -1 & \quad 8 = -8B \\ s = -5 : & \quad -24 = 24C \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $A = 1$, $B = -1$, $C = -1$. Since

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

the solution to the given initial problem is

$$y(t)\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{Y(s)\} = e^t - e^{-t} - e^{-5t}.$$

Example 3. Solve the initial value problem

$$y'' - 2y' + y = 6t - 2, \quad y(-1) = 3, \quad y'(-1) = 7.$$

SOLUTION. The initial conditions are given at $t = -1$ not at $t = 0$. Let

$$u = t + 1,$$

$u = 0$ when $t = -1$.

Replacing t by u in the differential equation, we have

$$y''(u) - 2y'(u) + y(u) = 6u - 8$$

and the initial conditions become

$$y(0) = 3, \quad y'(0) = 7.$$

Because the initial conditions now are given at the origin, the Laplace transform method is applicable.

$$\mathcal{L}\{y''(u) - 2y'(u) + y(u)\} = \mathcal{L}\{6u - 8\}$$

Let $\mathcal{L}\{y(u)\}(s) = Y(s)$, then

$$\mathcal{L}\{y'\}(s) = sY(s) - y(0) = sY(s) - 3$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{y''\}(s) = s^2Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0) = s^2Y(s) - 3s - 7$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{y'' - 2y' + y\} = \mathcal{L}\{y''\} - 2\mathcal{L}\{y'\} + \mathcal{L}\{y\} = (s^2 - 2s + 1)Y(s) - 3s - 1.$$

Since

$$\mathcal{L}\{6u - 8\} = \frac{6}{s^2} - \frac{8}{s} = \frac{6 - 8s}{s^2},$$

we have

$$(s^2 - 2s + 1)Y(s) - 3s - 1 = \frac{6 - 8s}{s^2}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} Y(s) &= \frac{6 - 8s + s^2(3s + 1)}{s^2(s - 1)^2} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s^2} + \frac{C}{s - 1} + \frac{D}{(s - 1)^2} = \\ &= \frac{As(s - 1)^2 + B(s - 1)^2 + Cs^2(s - 1) + Ds^2}{s^2(s - 1)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

$$6 - 8s + s^2(3s + 1) = As(s - 1)^2 + B(s - 1)^2 + Cs^2(s - 1) + Ds^2.$$

To determine A , B , C , and D we set $s = 0$, $s = 1$, $s = -1$, and $s = 2$ in the last equation.

$$\begin{aligned} s = 0 : \quad & 6 = B \\ s = 1 : \quad & 2 = D \\ s = -1 \quad & 2A + C = 7 \\ s = 2 : \quad & A + 2C = 2 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $A = 4$, $B = 6$, $C = -1$, $D = 2$. Since

$$Y(s) = \frac{4}{s} + \frac{6}{s^2} - \frac{1}{s - 1} + \frac{2}{(s - 1)^2},$$

the solution to the given initial problem is

$$y(t)\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{Y(s)\} = 4 + 6u - e^u + 2ue^u = 4 + 6(t + 1) - e^{t+1} + 2(t + 1)e^{t+1}.$$