
6.2: SOLVING ODES WITH LAPLACE TRANSFORMS

Review

- Laplace transform of derivatives

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

$$- \mathcal{L}\{f''\} = s^2F(s) - sy(0) - y'(0)$$

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

- How to solve differential equations with the Laplace transform
 - Laplace transform
 - Solve for $Y(s)$
 - Inverse transform

Exercise 1

Solve the initial value problem

$$y'' - 5y' + 6y = 0, \quad y(0) = -1, \quad y'(0) = 0.$$

Laplace transform

$$s^2 Y(s) - \cancel{s y(0)}^{-1} - \cancel{y'(0)}^0 - 5(s Y(s) - \cancel{y(0)}^{-1}) + 6Y(s) = 0$$

$$(s^2 - 5s + 6)Y(s) + s - 5 = 0$$

Solve for $Y(s)$

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

Inverse Laplace transform

$$Y(s) = \frac{5-s}{(s-2)(s-3)} = \frac{A}{s-2} + \frac{B}{s-3}$$

$$5-s = A(s-3) + B(s-2)$$

$$s=2: \quad 3 = -A \Rightarrow A = -3$$

$$s=3: \quad 2 = B$$

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

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

Exercise 2

Solve the initial value problem

$$y'' + 3y' + 2y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 2.$$

Laplace transform

$$s^2 Y(s) - \cancel{s y(0)}^0 - \cancel{y'(0)}^2 + 3(s Y(s) - \cancel{y(0)}^0) + 2 Y(s) = 0$$

$$(s^2 + 3s + 2) Y(s) - 2 = 0$$

Solve for $Y(s)$

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

Inverse transform

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

$$2 = A(s+2) + B(s+1)$$

$$s = -1: \quad 2 = -B \Rightarrow B = -2$$

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

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

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

Exercise 3

Solve the initial value problem

$$y'' + 4y' + 4y = 2e^t, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 3.$$

Laplace transform

$$s^2 Y(s) - \cancel{s y(0)} - \cancel{y'(0)} + 4(s Y(s) - \cancel{y(0)}) + 4 Y(s) = 2 \frac{1}{s-1}$$

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

Solve for $Y(s)$

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

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

do partial fractions

Inverse transform

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

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

$$s=1: \quad 2 = 9A \Rightarrow A = \frac{2}{9}$$

$$s=-2: \quad 2 = -3B \Rightarrow B = -\frac{2}{3}$$

$$s=0: 2 = 4A - B - 2C = 4\left(\frac{2}{9}\right) - \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) - 2C$$
$$= \frac{8}{9} + \frac{2}{3} - 2C = \frac{14}{9} - 2C$$

$$\Rightarrow 2C = \frac{14}{9} - \frac{18}{9} = -\frac{4}{9}$$

$$C = -\frac{2}{9}$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{3}{(s+2)^2} + \frac{2}{9} \frac{1}{s-1} - \frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{(s+2)^2} - \frac{2}{9} \frac{1}{s+2}$$

$$y(t) = 3te^{-2t} + \frac{2}{9} e^t - \frac{2}{3} te^{-2t} - \frac{2}{9} e^{-2t}$$

Exercise 4

Solve the initial value problem

$$y''' + y' = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 4, \quad y''(0) = 2.$$

Laplace transform

$$s^3 Y(s) - \cancel{s^2 y(0)} - \cancel{s y'(0)} - \cancel{y''(0)} + (s Y(s) - \cancel{y(0)}) = 0$$

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

Solve for $Y(s)$

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

Inverse transform

$$Y(s) = \frac{4s + 2}{s(s^2 + 1)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{Bs + C}{s^2 + 1}$$

$$4s + 2 = A(s^2 + 1) + (Bs + C)s$$

$$= As^2 + A + Bs^2 + Cs$$

$$= \underbrace{(A+B)}_{=0} s^2 + \underbrace{C}_{=4} s + \underbrace{A}_{=2}$$

$$B = -A = -2 \quad C = 4 \quad A = 2$$

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

$$= \frac{2}{s} - 2 \frac{s}{s^2 + 1} + 4 \frac{1}{s^2 + 1}$$

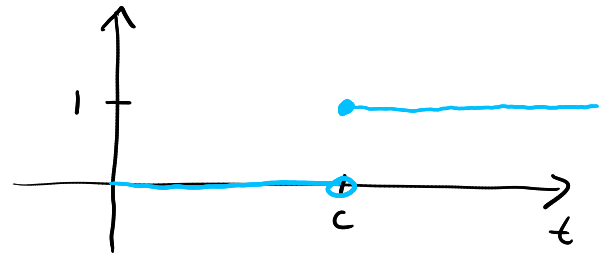
$$y(t) = 2 - 2\cos(t) + 4\sin(t)$$

6.3: STEP FUNCTIONS

Review

- The **unit step function** u_c is defined by

$$u_c(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < c \\ 1 & t \geq c \end{cases}$$



- It can be used to write discontinuous functions into a single equation.
- The Laplace transform of u_c is

$$\mathcal{L}\{u_c\} = \frac{e^{-cs}}{s}$$

- Laplace transforms of **shifts**

$$\mathcal{L}\{u_c(t) f(t-c)\} = e^{-cs} F(s)$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{u_c(t) f(t)\} = e^{-cs} \mathcal{L}\{f(t+c)\}$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{e^{-cs} F(s)\} = u_c(t) f(t-c)$$

- Inverse Laplace transform of **shifts**

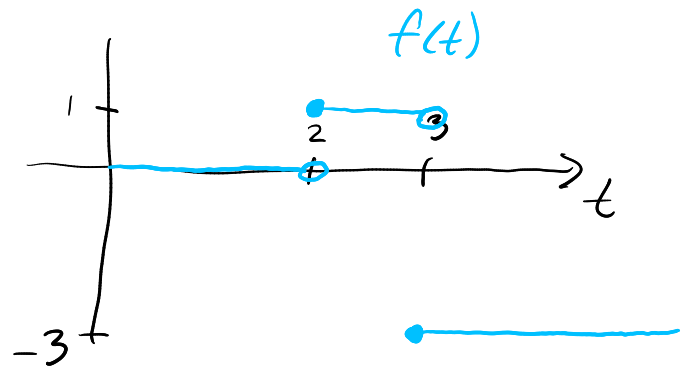
$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s-c)\} = e^{ct} f(t)$$

Exercise 5

Convert the following function to a piecewise function. Also, graph the function. Compute its Laplace transform.

$$f(t) = u_2(t) - 4u_3(t)$$

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 2 \\ 1 & 2 \leq t < 3 \\ -3 & t \geq 3 \end{cases}$$



$$\mathcal{L}\{f\} = \mathcal{L}\{u_2\} - 4\mathcal{L}\{u_3\}$$

$$= \frac{e^{-2s}}{s} - 4 \frac{e^{-3s}}{s}$$

Exercise 6

Convert the following function to a piecewise function. Compute its Laplace transform.

$$f(t) = t^2 - \sin(t-1)u_1(t) - t^2u_2(t)$$

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} t^2 & t < 1 \\ t^2 - \sin(t-1) & 1 \leq t < 2 \\ -\sin(t-1) & t \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^2 - \sin(t-1)u_1(t) - t^2u_2(t)\}$$

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

$$= \frac{2}{s^3} - e^{-s} \frac{1}{s^2+1} - e^{-2s} \mathcal{L}\{t^2+4t+4\}$$

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

Exercise 7

Convert the following piecewise function into a form that involves step functions.

$$g(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 3 \\ 5 & 3 \leq t < 6 \\ \cos(2t) & t \geq 6 \end{cases}$$

$$g(t) = 5u_3(t) - 5u_6(t) + \cos(2t)u_6(t)$$

Exercise 8

Convert the following piecewise function into a form that involves step functions. Compute its Laplace transform.

$$g(t) = \begin{cases} 2t & t < 4 \\ e^{2t} & t \geq 4 \end{cases}$$

$$g(t) = 2t - 2tu_4(t) + e^{2t}u_4(t)$$

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

$$= \frac{2}{s^2} - 2e^{-4s}\left(\frac{1}{s^2} + \frac{4}{s}\right) + e^{-4s}e^8\mathcal{L}\{e^{2t}\}$$

$$= \frac{2}{s^2} - 2e^{-4s}\left(\frac{1}{s^2} + \frac{4}{s}\right) + e^8e^{-4s}\frac{1}{s+2}$$

6.4: DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS WITH DISCONTINUOUS FORCING FUNCTIONS

Exercise 9

Solve the initial value problem.

$$f'' + f = u_2(t), \quad f(0) = 0, \quad f'(0) = 0.$$

Laplace transform

$$s^2 F(s) - \cancel{s f(0)} - \cancel{f'(0)} + F(s) = \frac{e^{-2s}}{s}$$

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

Solve for F(s)

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

Inverse transform

$$\frac{1}{s(s^2 + 1)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{Bs + C}{s^2 + 1}$$

$$1 = A(s^2 + 1) + (Bs + C)s$$

$$= As^2 + A + Bs^2 + Cs$$

$$= \underbrace{(A+B)}_{=0} s^2 + \underbrace{C}_{=0} s + \underbrace{A}_{=1}$$

$$B = -A \quad C = 0 \quad A = 1$$
$$= -1$$

$$F(s) = e^{-2s} \left(\frac{1}{s} - \frac{s}{s^2+1} \right)$$

$$f(t) = u_2(t) (1 - \cos(t-2))$$

Exercise 10

Solve the initial value problem.

$$\begin{aligned}
 w'' + w' &= \begin{cases} 2 & t < 4 \\ 0 & t \geq 4 \end{cases}, \quad w(0) = 0, \quad w'(0) = 0. \\
 &= 2 - 2u_4(t)
 \end{aligned}$$

Laplace transform

$$s^2 W(s) - \cancel{s w(0)} - \cancel{w'(0)} + s W(s) - \cancel{w(0)} = \frac{2}{s} - \frac{2e^{-4s}}{s}$$

$$(s^2 + s) W(s) = (2 - 2e^{-4s}) \frac{1}{s}$$

Solve for $W(s)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 W(s) &= (2 - 2e^{-4s}) \frac{1}{s(s^2 + s)} \\
 &= (2 - 2e^{-4s}) \frac{1}{s^2(s+1)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Inverse transform

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

$$\begin{aligned}
 1 &= A(s+1) + Bs(s+1) + Cs^2 \\
 &= As + A + Bs^2 + Bs + Cs^2 \\
 &= \underbrace{(B+C)}_{=0} s^2 + \underbrace{(A+B)}_{=0} s + \underbrace{A}_{=1}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} C = -B & B = -A & A = 1 \\ = 1 & = -1 & \end{array}$$

$$W(s) = (2 - 2e^{-4s}) \left(\frac{1}{s^2} - \frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s+1} \right)$$

$$= 2 \left(\frac{1}{s^2} - \frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s+1} \right) - 2e^{-4s} \left(\frac{1}{s^2} - \frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s+1} \right)$$

$$w(t) = 2t - 2 + e^{-t} - 2u_4(t) \left((t-4) - 1 + e^{-(t-4)} \right)$$

Exercise 11

Consider a spring and mass system with a 4 kg mass hanging on a spring. When the mass is hung on the spring, the spring extends 40 cm. The mass experiences a damping force of 6 N when the mass is moving 3 m/s. The mass starts from equilibrium at rest, but there is an external force $\sin(t)$ that lasts for the first 2π seconds. Write down the initial value problem that describes this situation.

Find m, γ, k .

$$m = 4 \text{ kg}$$

$$mg = kL \Rightarrow k = \frac{mg}{L} = \frac{4 \cdot 10}{0.4} = 100 \text{ N/m}$$

$$\gamma = \frac{|\text{Force}|}{\text{speed}} = \frac{6 \text{ N}}{3 \text{ m/s}} = 2 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{m/s}}$$

Initial value problem

$$4u'' + 2u' + 100u = \sin(t) - \sin(t)u_{2\pi}(t)$$

$$u(0) = 0, \quad u'(0) = 0.$$