

## 3 — Laplace Transform

### 3.1 Definition of Laplace Transform

**Definition 3.1.1** The Laplace transform of a function  $f(t)$ , denoted by  $F(s) = \mathcal{L}(f(t))$  is a function defined by

$$F(s) = \mathcal{L}(f(t)) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt \quad (3.1)$$

for all  $s$  such that this integral converges.

**Definition 3.1.2** The original function  $f(t)$  in (3.1) is called the inverse transform or invers of  $F(s)$  and will be denoted by  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}(F(s))$

$$\text{i.e., } f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}(F(s))$$

■ **Example 3.1** Let  $f(t) = 1$  when  $t \geq 0$ . Find  $F(s)$  ■

**Solution:** From (3.1) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L}(f(t)) &= \mathcal{L}(1) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} dt = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^n e^{-st} dt = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{-1}{s} e^{-st} \right) \Big|_0^n \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{-1}{s} (e^{-sn} - 1) \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{s}, \quad (s > 0)
 \end{aligned}$$

■ **Example 3.2** Let  $f(t) = e^{at}$  when  $t \geq 0$ , where  $a$  is constant. Find  $\mathcal{L}(f)$  ■

**Solution:** By definition

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(s) = \mathcal{L}(f(t)) &= \mathcal{L}(e^{at}) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} e^{at} dt = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^n e^{-(s-a)t} dt = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{-1}{s-a} e^{-(s-a)t} \right) \Big|_0^n \\
 &= \frac{1}{s-a}, \quad (s > a)
 \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3.1.1 — Linearity of the Laplace Transform** The Laplace transform is linear operation; that is, for any function  $f(t)$  and  $g(t)$  whose Laplace transforms exist and any constants  $a$  &  $b$ ,

$$\mathcal{L}\{af(t) + bg(t)\} = a\mathcal{L}(f(t)) + b\mathcal{L}(g(t))$$

■ **Example 3.3** Let  $f(t) = \sin \omega t$ . Find  $\mathcal{L}(f(t))$  ■

**Solution:** Since  $\mathcal{L}(e^{at}) = \frac{1}{s-a}$ , set  $a = i\omega$  with  $i = \sqrt{-1}$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(e^{i\omega t}) = \frac{1}{s-i\omega} = \frac{s+i\omega}{(s-i\omega)(s+i\omega)} = \frac{s+i\omega}{s^2+\omega^2} = \frac{s}{s^2+\omega^2} + i\frac{\omega}{s^2+\omega^2}$$

Since  $e^{i\omega t} = \cos \omega t + i \sin \omega t$  (Euler's Formule) and by theorem 3.1.1, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(e^{i\omega t}) &= \mathcal{L}(\cos \omega t + i \sin \omega t) \\ &= \mathcal{L}(\cos \omega t) + i\mathcal{L}(\sin \omega t)\end{aligned}$$

Equating the real and imaginary parts of these two equations, we get

$$\mathcal{L}(\cos \omega t) = \frac{s}{s^2 + \omega^2} \text{ and } \mathcal{L}(\sin \omega t) = \frac{\omega}{s^2 + \omega^2}$$

	$f(t)$	$\mathcal{L}(f(t)) = F(s)$	Domain
1	$c$ (constant)	$\frac{c}{s}$	$s > 0$
2	$t$	$\frac{1}{s^2}$	$s > 0$
3	$t^n$	$\frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$	$s > 0$
4	$e^{kt}$	$\frac{1}{s-k}$	$s > k$
5	$\sin kt$	$\frac{k}{s^2+k^2}$	$s > 0$
6	$\cos kt$	$\frac{s}{s^2+k^2}$	$s > 0$
7	$\cosh kt$	$\frac{s}{s^2-k^2}$	$s > k$
8	$\sinh kt$	$\frac{k}{s^2-k^2}$	$s > k$

**Theorem 3.1.2 — (First Shifting Theorem)** If  $f(t)$  has the transform  $F(s)$  (where  $s > k$ ), then  $e^{at}f(t)$  has the transform  $F(s-a)$  (where  $s-a > k$ )

$$\begin{aligned}\text{i.e., } \mathcal{L}(e^{at}f(t)) &= F(s-a) \text{ or} \\ e^{at}f(t) &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}(F(s-a))\end{aligned}$$

■ **Example 3.4** Compute  $\mathcal{L}(e^{2t} \cos 3t)$  ■

**Solution:** Since  $F(s) = \mathcal{L}(\cos 3t) = \frac{s}{s^2 + 9}$  and  $a = 2$ , we have  $\mathcal{L}(e^{2t} \cos 3t) = \frac{s-2}{(s-2)^2 + 9}$

■ **Example 3.5** Find  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s-4} - \frac{6}{(s-4)^2}\right)$  ■

**Solution:** Since  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}(e^{4t}) = \frac{1}{s-4}$  and  $\mathcal{L}(t) = \frac{1}{s^2} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(te^{4t}) = \frac{1}{(s-4)^2}$

$$\therefore \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s-4} - \frac{6}{(s-4)^2}\right) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s-4}\right) - 6\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{(s-4)^2}\right) = e^{4t} - 6te^{4t}$$

**Exercise 3.1** Compute

1.  $\mathcal{L}(e^{at}t^n)$
2.  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s^2 + 4s + 13}\right)$
3.  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{2s+4}{s^2 + 4s + 5}\right)$

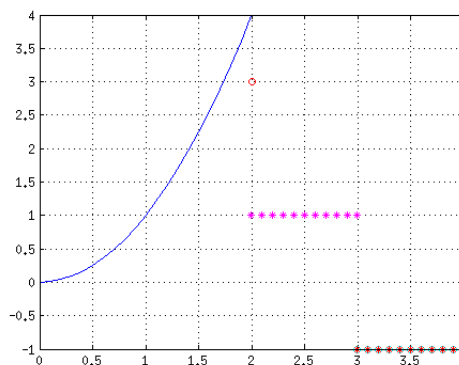
### 3.2 Existence of Laplace Transform

**Definition 3.2.1** A function  $f$  has a jump discontinuous at a point  $t_0$  if the function has different (finite) limits at  $t$  approaches  $t_0$  from the left and from the right or if the two limits are equal but different from  $f(t_0)$ . Note that  $f(t_0)$  may or may not be equal to either

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow t_0^+} f(t) \text{ or } \lim_{t \rightarrow t_0^-} f(t)$$

**Definition 3.2.2** A function  $f$  defined on  $(0, \infty)$  is piecewise continuous if it is continuous on every finite interval  $0 \leq t \leq \infty$ , except possibly at finitely many points where it has jump discontinuities

■ **Example 3.6** Let 
$$\begin{cases} t^2 & \text{for } 0 \leq t < 2 \\ 3 & \text{for } t = 2 \\ 1 & \text{for } 2 < t \leq 3 \\ -1 & \text{for } 3 < t \leq 4 \end{cases}$$
 ■



**Theorem 3.2.1 — Existence Theorem** Let  $f(t)$  be a function which is piecewise continuous on every finite interval in the range  $t \geq 0$  and satisfies

$$|f(t)| \leq Me^{kt}, \quad \forall t \geq 0 \quad (3.2)$$

and for some constant  $k$  and  $M$ . Then the Laplace transform of  $f(t)$  exists for all  $s > k$

*Proof.* Since  $f$  is piecewise continuous,  $e^{-st}f(t)$  has a finite integral over any finite interval on  $t \geq 0$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{L}(f(t))| &= \left| \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f(t) dt \right| \leq \int_0^\infty e^{-st} |f(t)| dt \\ &\leq \int_0^\infty Me^{-st} e^{kt} dt = M \int_0^\infty e^{-(s-k)t} dt \\ &= \frac{M}{s-k}, \quad s > k \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{L}(f(t))$  exists. (comparison theorem) ■

### 3.3 Laplace Transform of Derivatives

**Theorem 3.3.1** Suppose that  $f(t)$  is continuous for all  $t \geq 0$ , satisfies the condition

$$|f(t)| \leq Me^{kt}$$

for some  $k$  and  $M$ , and has a derivative  $f'(t)$  that is piecewise continuous on every finite interval in the range  $t \geq 0$ . Then the Laplace transform of the derivative  $f'(t)$  exists when  $s > k$  and

$$\mathcal{L}(f'(t)) = s\mathcal{L}(f(t)) - f(0) \quad (3.3)$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $f'(t)$  is continuous for all  $t \geq 0$ . Integrating by parts

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(f'(t)) &= \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f'(t) dt = e^{-st} f(t) \Big|_0^\infty + \int_0^\infty se^{-st} f(t) dt \\ &= 0 - f(0) + s \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f(t) dt = -f(0) + s\mathcal{L}(f(t)) \\ \therefore \mathcal{L}(f'(t)) &= s\mathcal{L}(f(t)) - f(0) \end{aligned}$$
■

**Theorem 3.3.2 — Laplace transform of the derivative of any order  $n$**  Let  $f(t)$  and its derivatives  $f'(t)$ ,  $f''(t)$ , ...,  $f^{(n-1)}(t)$  be continuous functions for all  $t \geq 0$ , satisfies the condition

$$|f(t)| \leq Me^{kt}$$

for some  $k$  and  $M$ , and let the derivative  $f^{(n)}(t)$  be piecewise continuous on every finite interval in the range  $t \geq 0$ . Then the Laplace transform of the derivative  $f^{(n)}(t)$  exists when  $s > k$  and is given by

$$\mathcal{L}(f^{(n)}(t)) = s^n \mathcal{L}(f(t)) - s^{n-1} f(0) - s^{n-2} f'(0) - \dots, -f^{(n-1)}(0) \quad (3.4)$$

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

■ **Example 3.7** Let  $f(t) = \cos^2 t$ . Find  $\mathcal{L}(f(t))$  ■

**Solution:** We have  $f(0) = 1$ ,  $f'(t) = -2 \cos t \sin t = -\sin 2t$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(f'(t)) &= \mathcal{L}(-\sin 2t) = s\mathcal{L}(f(t)) - f(0) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{-2}{s^2 + 4} &= s\mathcal{L}(\cos^2 t) - 1 \Rightarrow s\mathcal{L}(\cos^2 t) = 1 - \frac{2}{s^2 + 4} \\ \therefore \mathcal{L}(\cos^2 t) &= \frac{s^2 + 2}{s(s^2 + 4)}\end{aligned}$$

■ **Example 3.8** Let  $f(t) = t \sin \omega t$ . Find  $\mathcal{L}(f(t))$  ■

**Solution:** We have  $f(0) = 0$ ,  $f'(t) = \sin \omega t + t \omega \cos \omega t \Rightarrow f'(0) = 0$   
 $f''(t) = 2\omega \cos \omega t - t \omega^2 \sin \omega t$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(f''(t)) &= s^2 \mathcal{L}(f(t)) - sf(0) - f'(0) \\ \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(2\omega \cos \omega t - t \omega^2 \sin \omega t) &= s^2 \mathcal{L}(t \sin \omega t) - s \cdot 0 - 0 \\ \Rightarrow 2\omega \mathcal{L}(\cos \omega t) - \omega^2 \mathcal{L}(t \sin \omega t) &= s^2 \mathcal{L}(t \sin \omega t) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{2\omega s}{s^2 + \omega^2} &= (s^2 + \omega^2) \mathcal{L}(t \sin \omega t) \\ \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(t \sin \omega t) &= \frac{2\omega s}{(s^2 + \omega^2)^2}\end{aligned}$$

■ **Example 3.9** Solve the IVP

a)  $y'' - 4y = 0$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ ,  $y'(0) = 2$     b)  $y'' - 3y' + 2y = 4t - 6$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ ,  $y'(0) = 3$  ■

**Solution:** a) Taking Laplace transform both sides and using differentiation property, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(y'' - 4y) &= \mathcal{L}(y'') - 4\mathcal{L}(y) = 0 \Rightarrow s^2 \mathcal{L}(y) - sy(0) - y'(0) - 4\mathcal{L}(y) = 0 \\ \Rightarrow (s^2 - 4)\mathcal{L}(y) - s - 2 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(y) &= \frac{s + 2}{s^2 - 4} = \frac{1}{s - 2} \\ \Rightarrow y &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s - 2}\right) = e^{2t} \\ \therefore y(t) &= e^{2t}\end{aligned}$$

b)  $y'' - 3y' + 2y = 4t - 6$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ ,  $y'(0) = 3$  Taking Laplace transform both sides

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(y'' - 3y' + 2y) &= \mathcal{L}(4t - 6) \\ \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(y'') - 3\mathcal{L}(y') + 2\mathcal{L}(y) &= 4\mathcal{L}(t) - \mathcal{L}(6) \\ \Rightarrow s^2 \mathcal{L}(y) - sy(0) - y'(0) - 3s\mathcal{L}(y) + 3y(0) + 2\mathcal{L}(y) &= \frac{4}{s^2} - \frac{6}{s}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\Rightarrow (s^2 - 3s + 2)\mathcal{L}(y) - s = \frac{4 - 6s}{s^2} \\
&\Rightarrow (s - 2)(s - 1)\mathcal{L}(y) = \frac{4 - 6s}{s^2} + s = \frac{4 - 6s + s^3}{s^2} \\
&\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(y) = \frac{(s - 2)(s^2 + 2s - 2)}{s^2(s - 2)(s - 1)} = \frac{s^2 + 2s - 2}{s^2(s - 1)} \\
&\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(y) = \frac{s^2}{s^2(s - 1)} + \frac{2(s - 1)}{s^2(s - 1)} = \frac{1}{s - 1} + \frac{2}{s^2} \\
&\Rightarrow y(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s - 1}\right) + 2\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s^2}\right)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore y(t) = e^t + 2t$$

**Exercise 3.2** Solve the IVP

1.  $y'' + 4y = 0$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ ,  $y'(0) = 2$
2.  $y'' - 5y' + 6y = e^{-t}$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ ,  $y'(0) = 2$
3.  $y' + 4y = \cos t$ ,  $y(0) = 0$
4.  $y'' + 4y' + 3y = e^t$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ ,  $y'(0) = 2$

### 3.4 Solving Differential Equation with polynomial coefficient

**Theorem 3.4.1** Let  $\mathcal{L}(f(t)) = F(s)$  for  $s > a$ , and suppose that  $F$  is differentiable. Then

$$\mathcal{L}(tf(t)) = -\frac{d}{ds}\mathcal{L}(f(t)) \quad (3.5)$$

*Proof.*  $F(s) = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f(t) dt$

$$\frac{d}{ds}F(s) = \frac{d}{ds} \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f(t) dt = \int_0^\infty \frac{d}{ds} e^{-st} f(t) dt = \int_0^\infty -t e^{-st} f(t) dt = -\mathcal{L}(tf(t))$$

In general,

$$\mathcal{L}(t^n f(t)) = (-1)^n \frac{d^n}{ds^n} F(s) \quad (3.6)$$

■ **Example 3.10** Find  $\mathcal{L}(e^{-t} t \sin 2t)$  ■

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}(e^{-t} t \sin 2t) &= -\frac{d}{ds} \mathcal{L}(e^{-t} \sin 2t) \\
&= -\frac{d}{ds} \left( \frac{2}{(s + 1)^2 + 4} \right) \\
&= \frac{4(s + 1)}{((s + 1)^2 + 4)^2}
\end{aligned}$$

■ **Example 3.11** Solve the equation with variable coefficients

$$ty'' - ty' - y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 3$$

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

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(ty''(t)) &= -\frac{d}{ds}\mathcal{L}(y'') = -\frac{d}{ds}(s^2\mathcal{L}(y) - sy(0) - y'(0)) \\ &= -\frac{d}{ds}\mathcal{L}(s^2Y(s) - s \cdot 0 - 3) \\ &= -(2sY(s) + s^2Y'(s))\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(ty'(t)) &= -\frac{d}{ds}\mathcal{L}(y') = -\frac{d}{ds}(s\mathcal{L}(y) - y(0)) \\ &= -\frac{d}{ds}(sY(s)) = -(Y(s) + sY'(s))\end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $ty'' - ty' - y = 0$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ . Taking both sides Laplace transform.

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(ty'' - ty' - y) &= 0 \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(ty'') - \mathcal{L}(ty') - \mathcal{L}(y) = 0 \\ \Rightarrow -(Y(s) + sY'(s)) + Y(s) + sY'(s) - Y(s) &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow (s - s^2)Y'(s) - 2sY(s) &= 0 \Rightarrow s(s - 1)Y' = 2sY \\ \Rightarrow Y' = \frac{2}{1-s}Y \Rightarrow \frac{dY}{ds} &= \frac{2}{1-s}Y \\ \Rightarrow \frac{dY}{Y} &= \frac{2}{1-s}ds \\ \Rightarrow \ln Y &= -2\ln(s - 1) + \ln c \\ \Rightarrow Y &= \frac{c}{(s - 1)^2} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(y) = \frac{c}{(s - 1)^2} \\ \Rightarrow y(t) &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{c}{(s - 1)^2}\right) = cte^t\end{aligned}$$

$y(0) = 0$  To find  $c$ ,  $y'(t) = ce^t + cte^t \Rightarrow y'(0) = c = 3$

$$\therefore y(t) = 3te^t$$

**Exercise 3.3** Find

1.  $\mathcal{L}(te^{-t} \sin 4t)$
2.  $\mathcal{L}(t^2 e^{3t} \cos 2t)$

**Exercise 3.4** Solve the IVP

1.  $ty'' - y' = 2t^2$ ,  $y(0) = 0$
2.  $ty'' + (4t - 2)y' - 4y = 0$ ,  $y(0) = 1$
3.  $2y'' + ty' - 2y = 10$ ,  $y(0) = y'(0) = 0$

### 3.5 System of Linear Differential equation

Consider

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= a_{11}(t)x(t) + a_{12}(t)y(t) + f(t) \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= a_{21}(t)x(t) + a_{22}(t)y(t) + g(t)\end{aligned}\quad (3.7)$$

with initial conditions  $x(0) = x_0$  and  $y(0) = y_0$

By taking Laplace transform both equations in system (3.7) we can find the solutions of the system.

■ **Example 3.12** Consider the system of initial value equation

$$\begin{aligned}x' + y &= e^{2t} \\ x + y' &= 0\end{aligned}$$

s.t  $x(0) = 0, y(0) = 0$

**Exercise 3.5** Solve system of differential equation

$$\begin{aligned}a. \quad x' + y &= 2\cos t \\ x + y' &= 0\end{aligned}$$

s.t  $x(0) = 0, y(0) = 1$

$$\begin{aligned}b. \quad y_1'' &= y_1 + 3y_2 \\ y_2'' &= 4y_1 - 4e^t\end{aligned}$$

s.t  $y_1(0) = 2, y_1'(0) = 3, y_2(0) = 1, y_2'(0) = 2$

$$\begin{aligned}c. \quad y_1' &= -y_2 \\ y_2' &= y_1, \quad y_1(0) = 1, y_2(0) = 0\end{aligned}$$

### 3.6 Unit Step function(Heaviside Function)

A unit step function is defined by

$$U(t-a) = U_a(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t < a \\ 1 & \text{if } t \geq a \end{cases} \quad a \geq 0$$

A general piecewise-defined function of the type

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} g(t) & \text{if } 0 \leq t < a \\ h(t) & \text{if } t \geq a \end{cases}$$

is the same as

$$f(t) = g(t) + g(t)U(t-a) + h(t)U(t-a).$$



Similarly, a function of the type

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } 0 \leq t < a \\ g(t), & \text{if } a \leq t < b \\ 0 & \text{if } t \geq b \end{cases}$$

can be written

$$f(t) = g(t) (U(t-a) - U(t-b)).$$

The transform of  $U(t-a)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(U(t-a)) &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} U(t-a) dt \\ &= \int_a^{\infty} e^{-st} \cdot 1 dt = -\frac{e^{-st}}{s} \Big|_a^{\infty} \\ \mathcal{L}(U(t-a)) &= \frac{e^{-as}}{s}, \quad s > 0 \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3.6.1 — Second shifting theorem** If  $F(s)$  is the Laplace transform of  $f(t)$ , then

$$\mathcal{L}(U_a(t)f(t-a)) = e^{-as}F(s) \quad (3.8)$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(U_a(t)f(t-a)) &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} U_a(t) f(t-a) dt = \int_a^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t-a) dt \quad \text{Let } \xi = t-a \\ &= \int_a^{\infty} e^{-s(\xi+a)} f(\xi) d\xi = e^{-sa} \int_a^{\infty} e^{-s\xi} f(\xi) d\xi \\ &= e^{-as} F(s) \end{aligned}$$

■

■ **Example 3.13** Let  $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t < 2 \\ t-2, & t \geq 2 \end{cases}$  Find  $\mathcal{L}(f(t))$  ■

**Solution:**  $U_2(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t < 2 \\ 1, & t \geq 2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow f(t) = U_2(t)(t-2)$

$$\mathcal{L}(U_2(t)(t-2)) = e^{-2s} \mathcal{L}(t) = \frac{e^{-2s}}{s^2}$$

■ **Example 3.14** Find the inverse transform of  $F(s) = \frac{1+e^{-2s}}{s^2}$  ■

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{-1}(F(s)) &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s^2} + \frac{e^{-2s}}{s^2}\right) = t + U_2(t)(t-2) \\ &= \begin{cases} t & 0 \leq t < 2 \\ 2(t-1) & t \geq 2 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

■ **Example 3.15** Solve the IVP

$$y'' + y = g(t), \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 1$$

$$\text{where } g(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & 0 \leq t < 1 \\ 1 & 1 \leq t < 2 \end{cases}$$

■

**Solution:** We can express  $g(t)$  as  $U_1(t) - U_2(t)$ .  
The Laplace transform of the IVP is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(y'') + \mathcal{L}(y) &= \mathcal{L}(g(t)) \\ \Rightarrow s^2 \mathcal{L}(y) - sy(0) - y'(0) + \mathcal{L}(y) &= \mathcal{L}(U_1(t)) - \mathcal{L}(U_2(t)) \\ \Rightarrow (s^2 + 1)\mathcal{L}(y(t)) - 1 &= \frac{e^{-s}}{s} - \frac{e^{-2s}}{s} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(y) &= \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} + \frac{e^{-s}}{s(s^2 + 1)} - \frac{e^{-2s}}{s(s^2 + 1)} \\ \Rightarrow y(t) &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s^2 + 1}\right) + \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{e^{-s}}{s(s^2 + 1)}\right) - \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{e^{-2s}}{s(s^2 + 1)}\right) \\ \Rightarrow y(t) &= \sin t + U_1(t)[1 - \cos(t - 1)] - U_2(t)[1 - \cos(t - 2)] \end{aligned}$$

### 3.7 Convolution

**Definition 3.7.1** The convolution of the function  $f$  and  $g$  written by  $f * g$  is defined by

$$(f * g)(t) = \int_0^t f(t - \tau)g(\tau)d\tau, \quad \forall t \geq 0 \quad (3.9)$$

**Theorem 3.7.1 — The convolution Theorem** If  $F(s)$  and  $G(s)$  are the Laplace transform of  $f(t)$  and  $g(t)$  respectively, then

$$\mathcal{L}(f * g)(t) = \mathcal{L}(f)\mathcal{L}(g) \quad (3.10)$$

#### Properties of convolution

1.  $f * g = g * f$
2.  $f * (g * h) = (f * g) * h$  (associative)
3.  $f * (g + h) = (f * g) + (f * h)$  (Distributive)

■ **Example 3.16** Let  $H(s) = \frac{1}{(s^2 + \omega^2)^2}$ . Find  $h(t)$

■

**Solution:** We have  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s^2 + \omega^2}\right) = \frac{\sin \omega t}{\omega}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 h(t) &= \frac{\sin \omega t}{\omega} * \frac{\sin \omega t}{\omega} = \frac{1}{\omega^2} \int_0^t \sin \omega \tau \sin \omega(t - \tau) d\tau \\
 &= \frac{1}{\omega^2} \int_0^t \sin \omega \tau \sin \omega(t - \tau) d\tau \\
 &= \frac{1}{\omega^2} \int_0^t \sin \omega \tau [\sin \omega t \cos \omega \tau - \sin \omega \tau \cos \omega t] d\tau \\
 &= \frac{\sin \omega t}{\omega^2} \int_0^t \sin \omega \tau \cos \omega \tau d\tau - \frac{\cos \omega t}{\omega^2} \int_0^t \sin^2 \omega \tau d\tau \\
 &= \frac{\sin \omega t}{\omega^2} \int_0^t \sin \omega \tau \cos \omega \tau d\tau - \frac{\cos \omega t}{\omega^2} \int_0^t \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\cos 2\omega \tau}{2}\right) d\tau \\
 &= \frac{\sin \omega t}{\omega^2} \left[\frac{\sin^2 \omega \tau}{2\omega}\right]_0^t - \frac{\cos \omega t}{\omega^2} \left[\frac{1}{2}t - \frac{\sin 2\omega \tau}{4\omega}\right]_0^t \\
 &= \frac{\sin \omega t}{\omega^2} \left[\frac{\sin^2 \omega t}{2\omega}\right] - \frac{t \cos \omega t}{2\omega^2} + \frac{\cos \omega t \sin 2\omega t}{4\omega^3} \\
 &= \frac{\sin \omega t}{\omega^2} \left[\frac{\sin^2 \omega t}{2\omega}\right] - \frac{t \cos \omega t}{2\omega^2} + \frac{\cos^2 \omega t \sin \omega t}{2\omega^3} \\
 &= \frac{\sin \omega t}{2\omega^3} [\sin^2 \omega t + \cos^2 \omega t] - \frac{t \cos \omega t}{2\omega^2} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\omega^2} \left[\frac{\sin \omega t}{\omega} - t \cos \omega t\right]
 \end{aligned}$$

■ **Example 3.17** Solve the initial value problem

$$y'' + 4y' + 13y = 2e^{-2t} \sin 3t, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = 0$$

**Solution:**

### Integral equation

An equation of the form

$$y(t) = f(t) + \lambda \int_0^t K(t, \tau) y(\tau) d\tau \quad (3.11)$$

is called a Volterra integral equation, where  $\lambda$  is a parameter and  $K(t, \tau)$  is called the kernel of the integral equation. The Laplace transform is well suited to the solution of such integral equations when the kernel  $K(t, \tau)$  has a special form that depends on  $t$  and  $\tau$  only through the difference  $t - \tau$ , because then  $K(t, \tau) = K(t - \tau)$  and the integral in (3.11) becomes a convolution integral.

■ **Example 3.18** Solve the Volterra integral equation

$$y(t) = 2e^{-t} + \int_0^t \sin(t - \tau)y(\tau)d\tau$$

**Solution:** Taking laplace transform both sides, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(y(t)) &= \mathcal{L}\left(2e^{-t} + \int_0^t \sin(t - \tau)y(\tau)d\tau\right) \\ &= \frac{2}{1+s} + \mathcal{L}\left(\int_0^t \sin(t - \tau)y(\tau)d\tau\right) \\ &= \frac{2}{1+s} + \frac{\mathcal{L}(y(t))}{s^2+1} \\ \left(1 - \frac{1}{s^2+1}\right)\mathcal{L}(y(t)) &= \frac{2}{1+s} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{s^2}{s^2+1}\right)\mathcal{L}(y(t)) = \frac{2}{1+s} \\ \mathcal{L}(y(t)) &= \frac{2(s^2+1)}{s^2(s+1)} = \frac{2}{s^2} - \frac{2}{s} + \frac{4}{1+s} \\ y(t) &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{2}{s^2}\right) - \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{2}{s}\right) + \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{4}{1+s}\right) \\ y(t) &= 2t - 2 + 4e^{-t}, \quad \text{for } t > 0\end{aligned}$$

■ **Example 3.19** Solve the equation

$$y'' + y = \int_0^t \sin(\tau)y(t - \tau)d\tau \quad y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 0$$

**Exercise 3.6** Solve

1.  $y'' + y = \sqrt{2} \sin \sqrt{2}t, \quad y(0) = 10, y'(0) = 0$
2.  $y' + y = e^{-3t} \cos 2t, \quad y(0) = 0$
3.  $y' + 2y = f(t), \quad y(0) = 0, \quad f(t) = \begin{cases} t, & 0 \leq t < 1 \\ 0, & t \geq 1 \end{cases}$
4.  $y' + y = \int_0^t e^{-2\tau}y(t - \tau)d\tau, \quad y(0) = 3$
5.  $y'' - y = \int_0^t \sinh(\tau)y(t - \tau)d\tau \quad y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 0$
6.  $y'' - 4y = 2 \int_0^t \sinh(2\tau)y(t - \tau)d\tau \quad y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 0$

### 3.8 Laplace Transform of the Integral of a function

**Theorem 3.8.1 — Integration of  $f(t)$**  Let  $F(s)$  be the Laplace transform of  $f(t)$ . If  $f(t)$  is piecewise continuous and satisfies an inequality of the form  $|f(t)| \leq Me^{kt}$ , then

$$\mathcal{L}\left(\int_0^t f(\tau)d\tau\right) = \frac{1}{s}F(s), \quad (s > 0, s > k) \quad (3.12)$$

Or if we take the inverse transform on both sides

$$\int_0^t f(\tau) d\tau = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{s} F(s) \right) \quad (3.13)$$

■ **Example 3.20** Let  $\mathcal{L}(f(t)) = \frac{1}{s^2(s^2 + \omega^2)}$ . Find  $f(t)$  ■

**Solution:** We have  $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{s^2 + \omega^2} \right) = \frac{1}{\omega} \sin \omega t$ . From (3.13) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{s(s^2 + \omega^2)} \right) &= \frac{1}{\omega} \int_0^t \sin \omega \tau d\tau \\ &= \frac{1}{\omega} \left( -\frac{\cos \omega \tau}{\omega} \Big|_0^t \right) = \frac{1}{\omega} \left( \frac{-\cos \omega t + 1}{\omega} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\omega^2} (1 - \cos \omega t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{s} \left( \frac{1}{s(s^2 + \omega^2)} \right) \right) &= \frac{1}{\omega^2} \int_0^t (1 - \cos \omega \tau) d\tau \\ &= \frac{1}{\omega^2} \left( \tau - \frac{\sin \omega \tau}{\omega} \Big|_0^t \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\omega^2} \left( t - \frac{\sin \omega t}{\omega} \right) \end{aligned}$$

### Electric Circuit

Consider the RLC Circuit below

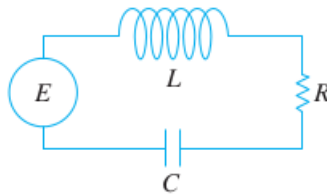


Figure 3.1: LRC series circuit.

In a single-loop or series circuit, Kirchhoff's second law states that the sum of the voltage drops across an inductor, resistor, and capacitor is equal to the impressed voltage  $E(t)$ . Now it is known that the voltage drops across an inductor, resistor, and capacitor are, respectively,

$$L \frac{di(t)}{dt}, Ri(\tau), \text{ and } \frac{1}{C} \int_0^t i(\tau) d\tau$$

where  $I(t)$  is the current and  $L$ ,  $R$ , and  $C$  are constants. It follows that the current in a circuit, such as that shown in Figure 3.1, is governed by the **integrodifferential equation**

$$L \frac{di(t)}{dt} + Ri(\tau) + \frac{1}{C} \int_0^t i(\tau) d\tau = E(t)$$

■ **Example 3.21** Determine the current  $i(t)$  in a single-loop LRC circuit when  $L = 0.1 \text{ h}$ ,  $R = 2 \text{ } \omega$ ,  $C = 0.1 \text{ f}$ ,  $i(0) = 0$ , and the impressed voltage is  $E(t) = 120t - 120tU(t - 1)$  ■