

Lecture #20 Inverse Laplace Transforms

I. Inverse Laplace Transforms

A. Bromwich Integral

1. Given a Laplace transform $F(s)$, we want to determine the inverse

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

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

2. NOTE: For Laplace transform to exist, $e^{-st} f(t)$ must not diverge.

a. Generally this means we must take $s > 0$.

b. In fact, if $f(t) \propto e^{\alpha t}$, then $e^{-st} f(t) \propto e^{(\alpha-s)t}$ converges if $s > \alpha$

3. Use Fourier transform to derive inverse Laplace transform.

a. Fourier Integral

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iyt} dy \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{-iyx} dx$$

x & y are dummy (integration) variables.

b. For this to be valid, $F(\omega)$ (Fourier transform of $f(t)$) must satisfy $\lim_{\omega \rightarrow \infty} F(\omega) = 0$ so integral of transform converges.

c. But, we can Laplace transform a divergent function $f(t) \propto e^{\alpha t}$ long as we take $s > \alpha$.

4. To allow Fourier integral to be applied, take

$$f(t) = e^{\beta t} g(t)$$

where $\beta > \alpha$ ensures that $g(t) = e^{-\beta t} f(t) \propto e^{(\alpha-\beta)t}$ converges.

5. Also, extend $g(t)$ to $t < 0$ by defining

$$g(t) = \begin{cases} g(t) & t \geq 0 \\ 0 & t < 0 \end{cases}$$

Since a Fourier transform must be defined over $-\infty < t < \infty$.

I.A. Continued

Hours (2)

6. Now, we apply Fourier integral to $g(t)$

$$a. g(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-iyt} dy \int_0^{\infty} g(x) e^{-iyx} dx$$

← since $g(x) = 0$ for $x < 0$!

b. Substitute $g(t) = e^{-\beta t} f(t)$

$$f(t) = \frac{e^{\beta t}}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iyt} dy \int_0^{\infty} f(x) e^{-(\beta+iy)x} dx$$

7. Define $s = \beta + iy$, so $\int_0^{\infty} f(x) e^{-sx} dx = F(s)$ ← Usual Laplace Transform.

8. Thus $f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{(\beta+iy)t} dy [F(s)]$

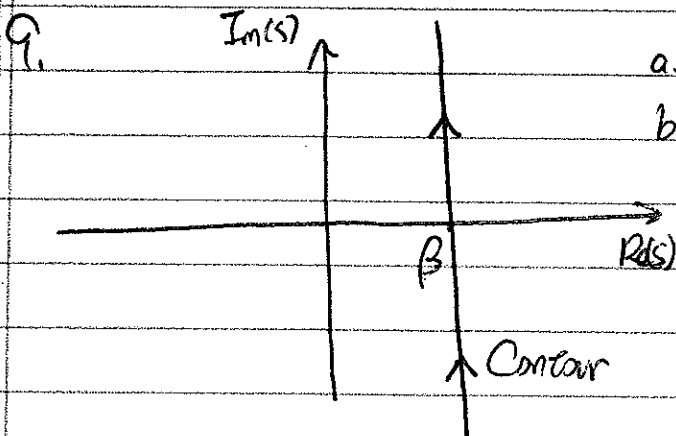
$$s = \beta + iy$$

$$ds = i dy \rightarrow dy = \frac{ds}{i}$$

Limits: $s = \beta + i(-\infty) = \beta - i\infty$
 $s = \beta + i(\infty) = \beta + i\infty$

Bromwich
Integral

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\beta - i\infty}^{\beta + i\infty} e^{st} F(s) ds$$



- a. Here s is complex
- b. Converges as long as $\text{Re}(s) \geq \beta$

Singularities in $F(s)$ may only exist to the left of contour.

10. We may evaluate the integral by contour integration.

- a. In particular, we can close integral with a counter-clockwise contour that goes to $\text{Re}(s) = -\infty$.
- b. Then we can apply Residue Theorem for poles in $F(s)$ within contour.

7. B. Ex. Inverse Laplace Transform

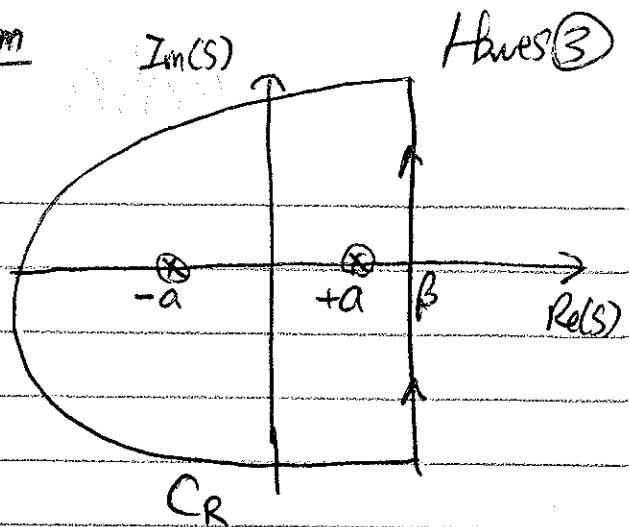
1. Consider $F(s) = \frac{a}{s^2 - a^2}$

2. $f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\beta - i\infty}^{\beta + i\infty} e^{st} F(s) ds$

3a. Poles: $F(s) = \frac{a}{(s+a)(s-a)}$

$s = \pm a$

b. Must choose $\beta > a$



4. Consider $\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_C e^{st} F(s) ds = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\beta - i\infty}^{\beta + i\infty} e^{st} F(s) ds + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{C_R} e^{st} F(s) ds$

a. NOTE: Since $\lim_{|s| \rightarrow \infty} F(s) = 0$, orientation from C_R is zero!

5. By Residue Theorem: $\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\beta - i\infty}^{\beta + i\infty} e^{st} F(s) ds = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_C e^{st} F(s) ds = \sum_{s=s_j} \text{Res} \left[\frac{ae^{st}}{(s+a)(s-a)} \right]$

$$= \frac{ae^{-at}}{-2a} + \frac{ae^{at}}{2a} = \frac{e^{at} - e^{-at}}{2} = \boxed{\sinh at = f(t)}$$

6. Generally:

a. When Laplace transform tables do not help you find an appropriate inverse transform, you can always apply the Bromwich integral

b. Complex contour integration using the Residue Theorem is a powerful approach, showing that poles are associated with terms in the solution

II. Integral Equations

A. Classes of Integral Equations

- a. Differential equations involve an unknown function and its derivatives.
- b. Integral equations concern an unknown function within an integral.

2. We shall focus on linear integral equations.

3. Two Classes:

a. Fixed limits of integration: Fredholm equation

b. One limit is a variable: Volterra equation

4. Two Kinds:

a. Unknown function only under integral sign \Rightarrow first kind

b. Unknown function inside & outside integral \Rightarrow second kind

5. Examples:

$\phi(t)$ is unknown function

$k(x,t)$ is kernel

$f(x)$ is a known function (If $f(x) = 0 \Rightarrow$ homogeneous)

a. Fredholm Eq. of first kind:

$$f(x) = \int_a^b k(x,t) \phi(t) dt$$

b. Fredholm Eq. of second kind:

$$\phi(x) = f(x) + \lambda \int_a^b k(x,t) \phi(t) dt$$

\nwarrow eigenvalue λ

c. Volterra Eq. of first kind:

$$f(x) = \int_a^x k(x,t) \phi(t) dt$$

d. Volterra Eq. of second kind:

$$\phi(x) = f(x) + \int_a^x k(x,t) \phi(t) dt$$

6. How do differential & integral equations differ?

a. For DE's, solution must be subject to boundary conditions to specify final answer.

b. For IE's, boundary conditions are built into the equations.

⇒ Integral equation relates solution to value through a region, not just to its derivatives at one point!

7. Many mathematical properties (existence, uniqueness, completeness) are more elegantly handled with equations in integral form!

8. Ex: Momentum Representation of Quantum Mechanics

a. Schrödinger Eq:
$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \psi(x) + V(x) \psi(x) = E \psi(x)$$

b. Fourier transforming, using Convolution Thm and Hartree Atomic units ($\hbar = m = e = 1$),

$$\frac{k^2}{2} \phi(k) + \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} \int \frac{4\pi}{|k-k'|} \phi(k') d^3k' = E \phi(k)$$

Fredholm eigenvalue Eq. of Second kind

$\phi(k)$ unknown function

$$K(k, k') = \frac{4\pi}{|k-k'|}$$

E is the eigenvalue

9. Ex: Kinetic Plasma Physics

a. Vlasov Equation
$$\frac{\partial f_s^{(s,v)}}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial f_s^{(s,v)}}{\partial x} - \frac{q}{m} \frac{\partial \phi(x)}{\partial x} \frac{\partial f_s^{(s,v)}}{\partial v} = 0$$

b. Poisson Equation:
$$-\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} = 4\pi \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv q_s f_s(x, v)$$

Integro-differential equations

II. (Continued)

Howes 6

B. Transforming a Differential Equation to an Integral Equation

1. a. $y'' + A(x)y' + B(x)y = g(x)$ Linear 2nd order ODE

b. Initial conditions: $y(a) = y_0$ $y'(a) = y_0'$ ← Cauchy BC's at $x=a$

2. Integrate $\int_a^x dt$

a. $\int_a^x y''(t) dt = [y'(t)]_a^x = y'(x) - y'(a) = y'(x) - y_0'$

b. $\int_a^x A(t)y'(t) dt = [A(t)y(t)]_a^x - \int_a^x A'(t)y(t) dt = A(x)y(x) - A(a)y_0 - \int_a^x A' y dt$

Integrate by parts
 $u = A(t)$ $dv = y'(t) dt$
 $du = A'(t) dt$ $v = y$

$-\int_a^x A' y dt$

c. Putting it together

$$y'(x) = -A(x)y(x) - \int_a^x [B(t) - A'(t)]y(t) dt + \int_a^x g(t) dt + A(a)y_0 + y_0'$$

3. Integrating once more $\int_a^x dt$, New dummy integration variable u

$$y(x) - y_0 = -\int_a^x A(t)y(t) dt - \int_a^x du \int_a^u [B(t) - A'(t)]y(t) dt$$

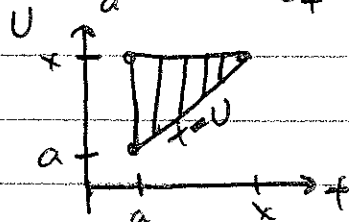
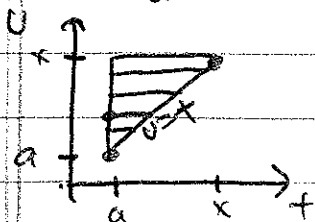
$$+ \int_a^x du \int_a^u g(t) dt + [A(a)y_0 + y_0'] \int_a^x dt$$

$\int_a^x dt = (x-a)$

Since original limit was a variable, it becomes new dummy integration variable u .

4. Eliminate double integrals:

$$\int_a^x du \int_a^u f(t) dt = \int_a^x dt f(t) \int_t^x du = \int_a^x dt f(t) [x-t]$$



$$= \int_a^x (x-t) f(t) dt$$

II. B. Contin. (cont)

Hawes ②

5. Applying this to double integrals

$$y(x) = - \int_a^x \left\{ A(t) + (x-t) [B(t) - A'(t)] \right\} y(t) dt$$

$$+ \int_a^x (x-t) g(t) dt + (x-a) [A(a) y_0 + y_0'] + y_0$$

6. Identity: a. $K(x,t) = - \left\{ A(t) + (x-t) [B(t) - A'(t)] \right\}$

b. $F(x) = \int_a^x (x-t) g(t) dt + (x-a) [A(a) y_0 + y_0'] + y_0$

c. NOTE: Here $A(t)$, $B(t)$, $g(t)$, and y_0' , y_0 are known!

7. Thus $y(x) = F(x) + \int_a^x K(x,t) y(t) dt$

\Rightarrow Volterra Eq. of Second Kind

C. Ex's: Linear Oscillator Equation

1. a. $y'' + \omega^2 y = 0$

b. Boundary Conditions: $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 1$

2. Here $A(x) = 0$, $B(x) = \omega^2$, $g(x) = 0$

a. $K(x,t) = - \left\{ 0 + (x-t) [\omega^2 - 0] \right\} = \omega^2 (t-x)$

Lower limit

(a=0)

b. $F(x) = \int_a^x (x-t)(0) dt + (x-a) [0(0) + 1] + 0 = (x-a) = x$

3. Thus $y(x) = x + \int_0^x \omega^2 (t-x) y(t) dt$

a. Corresponds to original differential equations and incorporates boundary conditions.

II. (Continued)

Howes (8)

D. Integral Equations with Dirichlet Boundary Conditions

1. Consider $y'' + \omega^2 y = 0$ with Dirichlet BCs, $y(0) = 0$, $y(b) = 0$.
 \Rightarrow Requires modification of procedure since $y'(0)$ is unknown.

2. First integration: $y' = -\omega^2 \int_0^x y dt + y'(0)$

3. Second integration: $y = -\omega^2 \int_0^x dt \int_0^t y dt + x y'(0)$
 $= \int_0^x (x-t) y(t) dt$

b. Thus $y(x) = -\omega^2 \int_0^x (x-t) y(t) dt + x y'(0)$

4. To eliminate $y'(0)$, impose BC at $x=b$ on this result

a. $y(b) = 0 = -\omega^2 \int_0^b (b-t) y(t) dt + b y'(0)$

b. Thus, $y'(0) = \frac{\omega^2}{b} \int_0^b (b-t) y(t) dt$

c. $y(x) = -\omega^2 \int_0^x (x-t) y(t) dt + \frac{\omega^2 x}{b} \int_0^b (b-t) y(t) dt$

5. To simplify break $\int_0^b dt = \int_0^x dt + \int_x^b dt$

a. $y(x) = \omega^2 \int_0^x \left[\frac{x}{b}(b-t) - (x-t) \right] y(t) dt + \omega^2 \int_x^b \frac{x}{b}(b-t) y(t) dt$

NOTE: x is not integration variable, so it be brought into the integral!

b. NOTE: $\frac{x}{b}(b-t) - (x-t) = x - \frac{xt}{b} - x + t = t(1 - \frac{x}{b}) = \frac{t}{b}(b-x)$

c. Thus

$y(x) = \omega^2 \int_0^x \frac{t}{b}(b-x) y(t) dt + \omega^2 \int_x^b \frac{x}{b}(b-t) y(t) dt$

6. Define kernel:

$$K(x,t) = \begin{cases} \frac{t}{b}(b-x) & 0 \leq t < x \\ \frac{x}{b}(b-t) & x < t \leq b \end{cases}$$

II, D. (Continued)

Howes (9)

Z. Thus

$$y(x) = \omega^2 \int_0^b K(x,t) y(t) dt$$

eigenvalue ω^2

Homogeneous Fredholm Eigenvalue Equation of Second Kind

E. Some Final Comments

1. Kernel Properties

a. Symmetric $K(x,t) = K(t,x)$

b. Continuous at $t=x$

c. Derivative $\frac{\partial K(x,t)}{\partial t}$ is discontinuous at $t=x$.

2. $K(x,t)$ is a Green's Function of ODE with specified BC's.

3. Boundary Condition determine type of integral equation

a. Cauchy Boundary Conditions $y(0), y'(0)$ \Rightarrow Volterra Eq.

b. Dirichlet Boundary Conditions $y(a), y(b)$ \Rightarrow Fredholm Eq.