

Physics 116B- Spring 2018

Mathematical Methods 116 B

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Notes on Differential Equations-VI

§ Summary of last item in the last lecture::

§Laplace Transforms and their application to solving ODE with constant coefficients:

With $p > 0$ the Laplace transform is defined as

$$L(f(t)) : F(p) = \int_0^{\infty} f(t)e^{-pt} dt \quad (1)$$

We will consult a set of standard Laplace transforms if we need to invert. In the HW and the exams you will need a copy of the Laplace transform tables given in the book.

For solving ODEs with constant coefficients, the basic idea is simple:

- a) Start with ODE- Take Laplace transform of both sides
- b) Now equation is algebraic and not an ODE at all, thanks to Laplace
- c) Solve algebraic equation
- d) To get back required solution of ODE, find the inverse Laplace transform of algebraic solution.

Study an example:

$$y' + 3y = \sin(\omega t) \quad (2)$$

Let

$$L(y) : Y(p) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-pt}y(t) dt$$

Multiply Eq. (??) by $e^{-pt} dt$ and integrate. Hence

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-pt} y'(t) dt + 3Y(p) = \frac{\omega}{p^2 + \omega^2} \quad (3)$$

where we used our recent example to write down the RHS i.e. $L(\sin)$.

For the first term we use integration by parts:

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-pt} y'(t) dt = [e^{-pt} y(t)]_0^{\infty} + p \int_0^{\infty} e^{-pt} y(t) dt = pY(p) - y(0).$$

Notice that the initial condition of y has made an explicit appearance here.

Hence the algebraic equation resulting from Laplacing the original equation is now:

$$\begin{aligned} (3+p)Y(p) &= y(0) + \frac{\omega}{p^2 + \omega^2} \\ Y(p) &= \frac{y(0)}{3+p} + \frac{1}{3+p} \times \frac{\omega}{p^2 + \omega^2} \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

The final step is to take the inverse Laplace transform.

The first term is easy: $y(0)e^{-3t}$. We have worked out

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-pt} e^{-st} dt = 1/(p+s)$$

this in class. In the Laplace Tables we are given

$$L[e^{-at}] = \frac{1}{p+a}, \dots (L.2)$$

which is exactly our result.

Second term can be done by looking up tables. To do that we need to prepare a bit by using partial fractions.

$$\frac{\omega}{p^2 + \omega^2} = \frac{1}{2i} \left(\frac{1}{p - i\omega} - \frac{1}{p + i\omega} \right).$$

So the second term is

$$\frac{1}{2i} \left(\frac{1}{p+3} \frac{1}{p-i\omega} - \frac{1}{p+3} \frac{1}{p+i\omega} \right) \dots (A)$$

Now from the Laplace tables we find a helpful transform
For $\Re(p+a) > 0$ and $\Re(p+b) > 0$, the relevant transform is

$$L\left[\frac{e^{-at} - e^{-bt}}{b-a}\right] = \frac{1}{(p+a)(p+b)}, \dots (L.7)$$

We can immediately read off the function of which Eq. (A) is the Laplace transform. Putting it together with the first term

$$y(t) = y(0)e^{-3t} + \frac{1}{2i} \left(\frac{e^{-i\omega t} - e^{-3t}}{3-i\omega} - \frac{e^{i\omega t} - e^{-3t}}{3+i\omega} \right) \quad (5)$$

That is the final answer.

§Higher derivatives:

In the ODE's we encounter y', y'', y''', \dots , so we need to know the systematics of how to take the Laplace Transform. We already solved one case in the last problem:

$$\begin{aligned} L(y') &= \int_0^\infty y'(t)e^{-pt} dt \\ &= pY(p) - y(0) \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

We used integration by parts. Thus the initial value $y(0)$ is required here.

Caution: Keep clear sight of capital Y versus lowercase y.

Let us take the next case

$$\begin{aligned} L(y'') &= \int_0^\infty y''(t)e^{-pt} dt \\ &= pL(y') - y'(0) \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

We can substitute from Eq. (6) and thus

$$L(y'') = p^2Y(p) - py(0) - y'(0). \quad (8)$$

§A few typical problems- and ideas for solving these:

Read through Examples 1,2,3,4 pages 440-441. These are good.

§Problem #9 Page 443:

With $y(0) = 0$ and $y'(0) = 8$ solve for $y(t)$:

$$y'' + 16y = 8 \cos(4t).$$

Solution: Take LT and use Eq. (??) to get $L(y'') = p^2 Y(p)$ and hence

$$(p^2 + 16)Y(p) = 8 + \frac{8p}{p^2 + 16}.$$

Hence

$$Y(p) = \frac{8p}{(p^2 + 16)^2} + \frac{8}{p^2 + 16}$$

Now scan the Tables: Use L11 and L3

$$y(t) = (t + 2) \sin(4t).$$

We can check this is right by taking derivatives of the proposed solution:

$$\begin{aligned} f'(t) &= \sin(4t) + 4(2 + t) \cos(4t) \\ f''(t) &= -16(2 + t) \sin(4t) + 8 \cos(4t). \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

Therefore ODE is reproduced. Also the initial values are satisfied.

§Problem #27 Page 443:

Warning: We will go over the details carefully, so this discussion will be somewhat longer than strictly necessary!

With $y(0) = 0 = y'(0)$ and with $z(0) = 4/3$, solve

$$\begin{aligned}y' + z' - 3z &= 0 \\ y'' + z' &= 0\end{aligned}\tag{10}$$

This is interesting since we have coupled equations. Let us say $Y(p)$ and $Z(p)$ are the LT's of y, z respectively. Taking LT's we get a pair of equations

$$\begin{aligned}[pY(p)] + [pZ(p) - 4/3] - 3Z(p) &= 0 \\ [p^2Y(p)] + [pZ(p) - 4/3] &= 0,\end{aligned}\tag{11}$$

where each square bracket is the LT of the individual terms, and we have *already* used the initial conditions.

Rearranging

$$pY(p) + (p - 3)Z(p) = \frac{4}{3}\tag{12}$$

$$p^2Y(p) + pZ(p) = \frac{4}{3}\tag{13}$$

The neat thing is we can solve coupled algebraic equations easily. Divide Eq. (12) by p and subtract (Eq. (13)-Eq. (12)). This gives:

$$(p - 4)Z(p) = \frac{4}{3} - \frac{4}{3p},$$

or

$$Z(p) = \frac{4}{3} \frac{1}{(p - 4)} - \frac{4}{3} \frac{1}{(p - 4)} \frac{1}{p},$$

Now use

$$\frac{1}{(p - 4)} \frac{1}{p} = \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{1}{(p - 4)} - \frac{1}{p} \right)$$

therefore by simplifying

$$Z(p) = \frac{1}{3p} + \frac{1}{p - 4}$$

Now we can plug in for $Y(p)$ into Eq. (??). In preparation note that taking partial fractions is extremely helpful:

$$(p-3)Z(p) = \frac{p-3}{3p} + \frac{p-3}{p-4} = \left[\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{p}\right] + \frac{p-4+1}{p-4} = \frac{4}{3} + \frac{1}{p-4} - \frac{1}{p}.$$

Plugging in we get

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

Use L5 for inversion. With $k > -1$

$$L(t^k) = \frac{k!}{p^{k+1}}.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= \frac{1}{4} + t - \frac{1}{4}e^{4t} \\ z(t) &= \frac{1}{3} + e^{4t}. \end{aligned} \tag{14}$$