

Lecture 10

Inverse Laplace Transform

C.L. Wyatt

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In today's lecture we introduce the Inverse Laplace Transform for CT signals and systems.

Inverse Unilateral Laplace Transform

Consider a causal function $f(t)$ that may or may not be absolutely integrable. Let $g(t) = f(t)e^{-ct}$ for some $c > 0$ such that

$$\int_0^{\infty} |g(t)| dt = \int_0^{\infty} |f(t)e^{-ct}| dt < \infty$$

Then the Fourier Transform of $g(t)$ exists

$$\begin{aligned} G(\omega) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(t)e^{-j\omega t} dt = \int_0^{\infty} f(t)e^{-ct}e^{-j\omega t} dt \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} f(t)e^{-(c+j\omega)t} dt \\ &= \mathcal{L}_1\{f(t)\}|_{s=c+j\omega} \quad c \text{ fixed s.t. } c + j\omega \in \text{ROC} \end{aligned}$$

The inverse Fourier Transform is

$$g(t) = f(t)e^{-ct} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(\omega)e^{j\omega t} d\omega$$

multiply through by e^{ct}

$$\begin{aligned}
e^{ct}g(t) = f(t) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(\omega)e^{ct}e^{j\omega t} d\omega \\
&= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(\omega)e^{(c+j\omega)t} d\omega
\end{aligned}$$

Substitute $G(\omega)$

$$\begin{aligned}
f(t) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[\underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} f(\tau)e^{-(c+j\omega)\tau} d\tau}_{F(s)|_{s=c+j\omega}} \right] e^{(c+j\omega)t} d\omega \\
f(t) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(c+j\omega)e^{(c+j\omega)t} d\omega
\end{aligned}$$

Let $s = c + j\omega$. Since c is a constant $ds = 0 + jd\omega$ implying $d\omega = \frac{1}{j}ds$ and

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

a complex integral.

Note: we can think of c as the real values such that $f(t)e^{-ct}$ has a Fourier Transform. This is the ROC.

Does the above integral look like our contour Integrals from previous lectures?

Yes, if we use the Bromwich contour.

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi j} \int_{c-j\infty}^{c+j\infty} F(s)e^{st} ds = \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \oint_{C(R)} F(s)e^{st} ds$$

where $C(R)$ is the Bromwich contour.

This allows us to use the method of residues since $C \in \text{ROC}$ implies $C(R)$ encloses all singularities of $F(s)$.

Example: Recall that $\mathcal{L}\{x(t)\} = \mathcal{L}\{e^{-at}u(t)\}$ for $a \in \mathbb{R}$ was $\frac{1}{s+a}$ $\text{Re}(s) > -a$

Then

$$x(t) = \mathcal{L}_1 \left\{ \frac{1}{s+a} \right\} = \frac{1}{2\pi j} \int_{c-j\infty}^{c+j\infty} \frac{1}{s+a} e^{st} ds \quad \text{for } c > -a$$

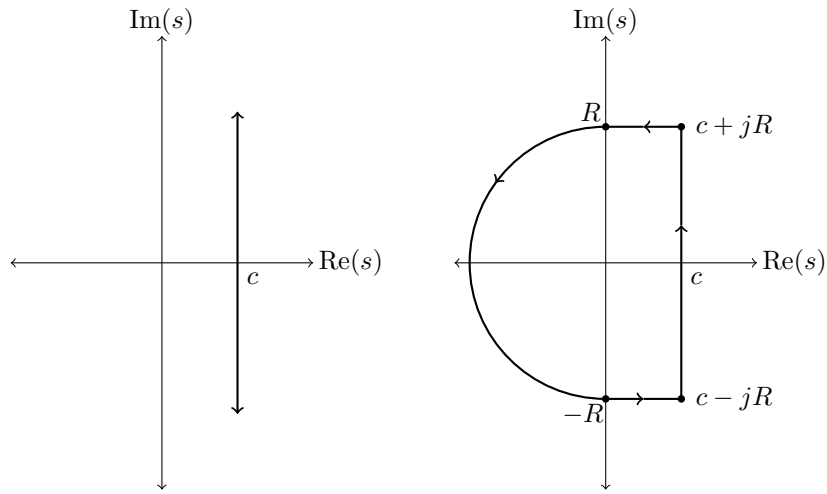


Figure 1: The linear contour of integration for the inverse Laplace transform becomes the Bromwich contour as $R \rightarrow \infty$.

or using the Bromwich contour

$$x(t) = \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2\pi j} \oint_{C(R)} \frac{e^{st}}{s+a} ds \quad c > -a$$

Now from last time, since e^{st} is analytic and $C(R)$ encloses the singularity at $-a$, from the Residue Theorem

$$\oint \frac{e^{st}}{s+a} ds = 2\pi j k_1$$

where the residual is

$$k_1 = (s+a) \frac{e^{st}}{s+a} \Big|_{s=-a} = e^{st} \Big|_{s=-a} = e^{-at} \quad t > 0$$

Thus

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi j} \cdot 2\pi j e^{-at} \quad t > 0 = e^{-at} u(t)$$

Inverse Bilateral Laplace Transform

Given a non-causal signal $x(t)$ we can write it as

$$x(t) = \underbrace{x_1(t)u(-t)}_{\text{anticausal part}} + \underbrace{x_2(t)u(t)}_{\text{causal part}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_2 \{x(t)\} &= \int_{-\infty}^0 x_1(t)e^{-st} dt + \int_0^{\infty} x_2(t)e^{-st} dt \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} x_1(-t)e^{st} dt + \mathcal{L}_1 \{x_2(t)\} \\ &= \mathcal{L}_1 \{x_1(-t)\}|_{s=-s} + \mathcal{L}_1 \{x_2(t)\} \\ X(s) &= \underbrace{X_1(s)}_{\text{Re}(s) < U} + \underbrace{X_2(s)}_{\text{Re}(s) > L} \end{aligned}$$

where the ROC of $X(s)$ is the intersection of the ROC for X_1 and X_2 , a strip in the complex plane $L < \text{Re}(s) < U$.

To use this for the inverse we apply this in reverse.

$$x(t) = \mathcal{L}_1^{-1} \{X_1(-s)\}|_{t \rightarrow -t} + \mathcal{L}_1^{-1} \{X_2(s)\}$$

Example: Recall an example of a forward bilateral Laplace transform from lecture 9

$$\mathcal{L}_2 \{e^{-|t|}\} = \underbrace{\frac{-1}{s-1}}_{\text{Re}(s) < 1} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{s+1}}_{\text{Re}(s) > -1} = X(s)$$

Then

$$x(t) = \mathcal{L}_2^{-1} \{X(s)\} = \mathcal{L}_1^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s+1} \right\} \Big|_{t \rightarrow -t} + \mathcal{L}_1^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s+1} \right\}$$

From our previous result when $a = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= e^{-t}u(t) \Big|_{t \rightarrow -t} + e^{-t}u(t) \\ &= e^t u(-t) + e^{-t}u(t) = e^{-|t|} \end{aligned}$$

Example: Find the inverse Laplace transform of

$$X(s) = \frac{1}{s} \quad \text{Re}(s) > 0.$$

Solution: Since the ROC corresponds to a causal signal, for $t > 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 x(t) &= \frac{1}{2\pi j} \int_{c-j\infty}^{c+j\infty} X(s)e^{st} ds \quad c > 0 \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi j} \oint \frac{e^{st}}{s} ds \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi j} 2\pi j k \\
 &= s \frac{e^{st}}{s} \Big|_{s=0} \\
 &= 1 \quad t > 0
 \end{aligned}$$

which can be written as $x(t) = u(t)$ for all times t .

Example: Find the inverse Laplace transform of

$$X(s) = \frac{10}{s^2 + 5s + 6} \quad \text{Re}(s) > -2.$$

First we use the partial fraction expansion.

$$X(s) = \frac{10}{(s+2)(s+3)} = \frac{A}{s+2} + \frac{B}{s+3}$$

$$A = \frac{10}{s+3} \Big|_{s=-2} = \frac{10}{1} = 10$$

$$B = \frac{10}{s+2} \Big|_{s=-3} = \frac{10}{-1} = -10$$

Then

$$x(t) = \mathcal{L}_1^{-1} \left\{ \frac{10}{s+2} \right\} + \mathcal{L}_1^{-1} \left\{ \frac{-10}{s+3} \right\}$$

Using the Residue theorem,

$$\begin{aligned}
x(t) &= \frac{10}{2\pi j} \int_{c-j\infty}^{c+j\infty} \frac{e^{st}}{s+2} ds - \frac{10}{2\pi j} \int_{c-j\infty}^{c+j\infty} \frac{e^{st}}{s+3} ds \\
c &> -2 \quad c > -2 \\
&= \frac{10}{2\pi j} \oint \frac{e^{st}}{s+2} ds - \frac{10}{2\pi j} \oint \frac{e^{st}}{s+3} ds \\
&= \frac{10}{2\pi j} 2\pi j e^{-2t} - \frac{10}{2\pi j} 2\pi j e^{-3t} \\
&= 10e^{-2t} - 10e^{-3t} \quad t > 0
\end{aligned}$$

Writing the expression for all t gives:

$$x(t) = 10 (e^{-2t} - e^{-3t}) u(t).$$

Example: Here is an example with complex singularities. Find the inverse Laplace transform of

$$X(s) = \frac{s}{s^2 + 2s + 5} \quad \text{Re}(s) > -1$$

Using the partial fraction expansion

$$X(s) = \frac{s}{(s+1+j2)(s+1-j2)} = \frac{A}{s+1+j2} + \frac{B}{s+1-j2}$$

where

$$A = \frac{-1-j2}{-1-j2+1-j2} = \frac{-1-j2}{-j4} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4}j$$

$$B = \frac{-1+j2}{-1+j2+1+j2} = \frac{-1+j2}{j4} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}j$$

Then

$$x(t) = \mathcal{L}_1^{-1} \left\{ \frac{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4}j}{s+1+j2} \right\} + \mathcal{L}_1^{-1} \left\{ \frac{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}j}{s+1-j2} \right\}$$

Using residues, let $c = 0 > -1$

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi j} \int_{-j\infty}^{j\infty} \frac{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4}j}{s+1+j2} e^{st} ds + \frac{1}{2\pi j} \int_{-j\infty}^{j\infty} \frac{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}j}{s+1-j2} e^{st} ds$$

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi j} 2\pi j k_1 + \frac{1}{2\pi j} 2\pi j k_2$$

$$k_1 = \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4}j\right) e^{(-1-j2)t} \quad k_2 = \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}j\right) e^{(-1+j2)t}$$

$$x(t) = k_1 + k_2 = \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4}j\right) e^{(-1-j2)t} + \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}j\right) e^{(-1+j2)t}$$

for $t > 0$

with some effort you can write this as

$$x(t) = e^{-t} \left(\cos(2t) - \frac{1}{2} \sin(2t) \right) u(t)$$

for all t .