

**6.3.1.** Calculate the Laplace transform  $L(t^3 + 5t^2 + 2t - 1)$ .

Using linearity of the Laplace transform operator and the known transform  $L(t^n) = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$ , we find that

$$L(t^3 + 5t^2 + 2t - 1) = L(t^3) + 5L(t^2) + 2L(t) - L(1) = \frac{6}{s^4} + \frac{10}{s^3} + \frac{2}{s^2} - \frac{1}{s}$$

**6.3.13.** Calculate the Laplace transform of  $f(t) = (te^t)^3$ .

Note that  $f(t) = t^3 e^{3t}$ . From the table of Laplace transforms we know that  $L(t^3) = \frac{3}{s^4}$  and  $L(e^{3t}f(t)) = F(s-3)$ , so  $L(t^3 e^{3t}) = \frac{3}{(s-3)^4}$ .

**6.3.31.** Use the Laplace transform method to solve the initial value problem  $y'' + 4y' + 4y = 0$ ;  $y(0) = 0$ ,  $y'(0) = 1$ .

Taking the Laplace transform of this second order ODE yields the equation  $s^2Y - sy(0) - y'(0) + 4(sY - y(0)) + 4Y = 0$ . Substituting in the known values of  $y(0)$  and  $y'(0)$  yields  $(s^2 + 4s + 4)Y - 1 = 0$ , so  $Y = \frac{1}{s^2 + 4s + 4} = \frac{1}{(s+2)^2}$ . Taking the inverse Laplace transform of this,  $y = te^{-2t}$ .

**6.3.41.** Use the Laplace transform method to solve the initial value problem

$$\begin{cases} x' = 3x - 2y; & x(0) = 3 \\ y' = 2x - y; & y(0) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Taking the Laplace transform of this system of equations yields the new system

$$\begin{cases} sX - 3 = 3X - 2Y \\ sY = 2X - Y \end{cases}$$

which we may rewrite in the more conventional form

$$\begin{cases} (s-3)X + 2Y = 3 \\ -2X + (s+1)Y = 0 \end{cases}$$

Multiplying the first equation by 2 and the second by  $s-3$ , then adding them together, yields the simpler equation  $(4 + (s+1)(s-3))Y = 6$ , so  $Y = \frac{6}{s^2 - 2s + 1} = \frac{6}{(s-1)^2}$ . Substituting this into the second equation,  $X = \frac{s+1}{2}Y = \frac{3s+3}{(s-1)^2}$ . This is not in a form of which we can take the inverse Laplace transform, so we must utilize the partial fraction decomposition  $\frac{3s+3}{(s-1)^2} = \frac{A}{s-1} + \frac{B}{(s-1)^2}$ , so  $3s+3 = A(s-1) + B$ , so matching linear and constant terms,  $A = 3$  and  $-A + B = 3$ , so the decomposition is  $X = \frac{3}{s-1} + \frac{6}{(s-1)^2}$ . We may now take the inverse Laplace transforms to find that  $y = 6te^t$  and  $x = 3e^t + 6te^t$ .

**6.3.44.** Let  $f(t)$  be a function that has a Laplace transform, and let  $F(s) = L(f)$ . If  $k$  denotes a positive constant, prove that

$$L[f(kt)] = \frac{1}{k}F\left(\frac{s}{k}\right).$$

Note that  $L[f(kt)] = \int_0^\infty f(kt)e^{-st}dt$ . Let  $u = kt$ , so  $dt = \frac{1}{k}du$ ; substituting this into the above integral, we get  $L[f(kt)] = \frac{1}{k} \int_0^\infty f(u)e^{-\frac{s}{k}u}du$ . Note that  $F(s) = \int_0^\infty f(u)e^{-su}du$ , so by replacing  $s$  with  $\frac{s}{k}$ , we get the integrand in the previous expression. Thus,  $L[f(kt)] = \frac{1}{k}F\left(\frac{s}{k}\right)$ .

Use this result to derive formulas for the Laplace transforms of the following expressions.

(a)  $e^{kt}$ , given that  $L(e^t) = \frac{1}{s-1}$ .

Let  $f(t) = e^t$ , so  $F(s) = \frac{1}{s-1}$ . Then

$$L(e^{kt}) = L(f(kt)) = \frac{1}{k}F\left(\frac{s}{k}\right) = \frac{1}{k} \cdot \frac{1}{\frac{s}{k}-1} = \frac{1}{s-k}.$$

(b)  $\cos(kt)$ , given that  $L[\cos(t)] = \frac{s}{s^2+1}$ .

Let  $f(t) = \cos(t)$ , so  $F(s) = \frac{s}{s^2+1}$ . Then

$$L[\cos(kt)] = L(f(kt)) = \frac{1}{k}F\left(\frac{s}{k}\right) = \frac{1}{k} \cdot \frac{\frac{s}{k}}{\frac{s^2}{k^2}+1} = \frac{s}{s^2+k^2}.$$

(c)  $\sin(kt)$ , given that  $L[\cos(t)] = \frac{1}{s^2+1}$ .

Let  $f(t) = \sin(t)$ , so  $F(s) = \frac{1}{s^2+1}$ . Then

$$L[\sin(kt)] = L(f(kt)) = \frac{1}{k}F\left(\frac{s}{k}\right) = \frac{1}{k} \cdot \frac{1}{\frac{s^2}{k^2}+1} = \frac{k}{s^2+k^2}.$$

**6.4.1.** Find the inverse Laplace transform of the expression  $\frac{6}{s^3+s^2}$ .

Let us find the partial fraction decomposition  $\frac{6}{s^2(s+1)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s^2} + \frac{C}{s+1}$ . Then, clearing the denominator, this equation becomes  $6 = (s^2+s)A + (s+1)B + s^2C$ , which, regrouping like terms is  $(A+C)s^2 + (A+B)s + B = 6$ . Thus  $A+C=0$ ,  $A+B=0$ , and  $B=6$ , which we can solve to yield  $A=-6$  and  $C=6$ . Thus  $\frac{6}{s^2(s+1)} = \frac{6}{s^2} - \frac{6}{s} + \frac{6}{s+1}$ , whose inverse Laplace transform is  $6t - 6 + 6e^{-t}$ .

**6.4.3.** Find the inverse Laplace transform of the expression  $\frac{s+5}{s^2+6s+10}$ .

The denominator is irreducible in real numbers (the roots of  $s^2+6s+10$  are complex), so we must complete the square to find a form of which we can take the inverse Laplace transform.  $s^2+6s+10 = (s+3)^2+1$ , so we can rewrite the expression as  $\frac{s+3}{(s+3)^2+1} + \frac{2}{(s+3)^2+1}$ , which has inverse Laplace transform  $e^{-3t} \cos t + 2e^{-3t} \sin t$ .

**6.4.9.** Use the Laplace transform to solve the initial value problem  $y'' + 4y = 16t$  with homogeneous initial conditions at  $t = 0$ .

Note that with homogeneous initial conditions at  $t = 0$ ,  $L(y^{(n)}) = s^n$ , so applying the Laplace transform to this equation yields  $s^2Y + 4Y = \frac{16}{s^2}$ , so  $Y = \frac{16}{s^2(s^2+4)}$ . The partial

fraction decomposition of this expression is  $\frac{16}{s^2(s^2+4)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s^2} + \frac{C}{s^2+4} + \frac{Ds}{s^2+4}$ , which reduces on multiplication by the common denominator to  $A(s^3+4s)+B(s^2+4)+Cs^2+Ds^3 = 16$ . Thus, equating the cubic, quadratic, linear, and constant terms, we find that  $A+D = 0$ ,  $B+C = 0$ ,  $4A = 0$ , and  $4B = 16$ , so  $A = D = 0$ ,  $B = 4$ , and  $C = -4$ , so  $Y = \frac{4}{s^2} - \frac{4}{s^2+4}$ , whose inverse Laplace transform is  $y = 4t - 2\sin(2t)$ .

**6.4.11.** Use the Laplace transform to solve the initial value problem  $y'' + 4y = 3\sin t$ ;  $y(0) = 0$ ,  $y'(0) = -1$ .

Applying the Laplace transform to this equation yields  $s^2Y - sy(0) - y'(0) + 4Y = \frac{3}{s^2+1}$ , which, supplied with initial value, is  $s^2Y + 1 + 4Y = \frac{3}{s^2+1}$ , so  $Y = \frac{2-s^2}{(s^2+1)(s^2+4)}$ . The partial fraction decomposition of this expression is  $\frac{2-s^2}{(s^2+1)(s^2+4)} = \frac{A}{s^2+1} + \frac{Bs}{s^2+1} + \frac{C}{s^2+4} + \frac{Ds}{s^2+4}$ , which reduces on multiplication by the common denominator to  $2 - s^2 = A(s^2 + 4) + B(s^3 + 4s) + C(s^2 + 1) + D(s^3 + s)$ . Thus, equating the cubic, quadratic, linear, and constant terms, we find that  $B + D = 0$ ,  $A + C = -1$ ,  $4B + D = 0$ , and  $4A + C = 2$ . Thus  $A = 1$ ,  $B = D = 0$ , and  $C = -2$ , so  $Y = \frac{1}{s^2+1} - \frac{2}{s^2+4}$ , which has inverse Laplace transform  $y = \sin t - \sin 2t$ .

**6.4.19.** Use the Laplace transform to solve the initial value problem

$$\begin{cases} x' = x + y; & x(0) = 1 \\ y' = -x - y - t; & y(0) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Applying the Laplace transform to this system yields

$$\begin{cases} sX - 1 = X + Y \\ sY = -X - Y - \frac{1}{s^2} \end{cases}$$

which we may rewrite in the more conventional form

$$\begin{cases} (s-1)X - Y = 1 \\ X + (s+1)Y = -\frac{1}{s^2} \end{cases}$$

Multiplying the first equation by  $s+1$  and adding to the second gives  $s^2X = \frac{s^3+s^2-1}{s^2}$ , so  $X = \frac{s^3+s^2-1}{s^4} = \frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s^2} - \frac{1}{s^4}$  and, from the first equation,  $Y = (s-1)X - 1 = \frac{-s^2-s+1}{s^4} = -\frac{1}{s^2} - \frac{1}{s^3} + \frac{1}{s^4}$ . Taking the inverse Laplace transform of each of these,  $x = 1 + t - \frac{1}{6}t^3$  and  $y = -t - \frac{1}{2}t^2 + \frac{1}{6}t^3$ .

**7.1.3.** Multiply the power series  $(2t - t^3) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n t^{2n}$

Simply multiplying by each term, we get  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2A_n t^{2n+1} - A_n t^{2n+3}$ , which we can separate and recombine as such:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2A_n t^{2n+1} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n t^{2n+3} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2A_n t^{2n+1} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_{n-1} t^{2n+1} = A_0 t - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (2A_n - A_{n-1}) t^{2n+1}$$

**7.1.11.** Use index shifting to find a power series expansion for the expression  $f''(t) - tf(t)$ , where  $f(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n t^n$ .

$f''(t) - tf(t) = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1)A_n t^{n-2} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n t^{n+1}$ . We replace every occurrence of  $n-2$  with  $n$  in the first sum, and every occurrence of  $n+1$  with  $n$  in the second, to rephrase this expression as  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+2)(n+1)A_{n+2} t^n - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_{n-1} t^n = 2A_2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((n+2)(n+1)A_{n+2} - A_{n-1}) t^n$ .

**7.1.16.** Let  $\mathcal{L}(y) = t^2 y'' + 4ty' + 2y$ . Give the series representation of

$$\mathcal{L} \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n t^n \right).$$

Let  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n t^n$ , so that the expression sought is simply  $t^2 y'' + 4ty' + 2y$  in series form. By the index-shifting lemma, these terms are  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1)A_n t^n + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 4nA_n t^n + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2A_n t^n$ , which, pulling out terms of degree less than 2, gives  $2A_0 + 6A_1 + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (n(n-1) + 4n + 2)A_n t^n$ .

**7.2.3.** Use the ODE  $y' + 2ty = 0$  to derive a power series expansion for  $f(t) = e^{-t^2}$ .

Let  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n t^n$ . Then  $y' + 2ty = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1)A_{n+1} t^n + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2A_{n-1} t^n = A_1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((n+1)A_{n+1} + 2A_{n-1}) t^n$ . Since this must be equal to zero, it follows that the coefficient of each term is zero, so  $A_1 = 0$  and  $(n+1)A_{n+1} + 2A_{n-1} = 0$  for  $n \geq 1$ . We may rewrite the second condition as  $A_{n+2} = \frac{-2A_n}{n+2}$  for  $n \geq 0$ , so it follows straightforwardly from the first condition that all odd terms  $A_{2n+1}$  are zero, while the even terms are governed by  $A_{2n+2} = \frac{-A_{2n}}{n+1}$ , which inductively we can show to be  $\frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} A_0$ . So the general solution is  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} A_0 t^{2n}$ ; since the specific solution  $e^{-t^2}$  has constant term 1, since  $A_0 = f(0)$ , the series expansion of  $e^{-t^2}$  is  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} t^{2n}$ .

**7.2.15.** Find the solution of the initial value problem  $y'' + 2ty' - y = 0$ ;  $y(0) = 1$ ,  $y'(0) = 0$  in the form of a power series. If it is feasible to do so, give the coefficients in closed form.

Let  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n t^n$ . Then  $y'' + 2ty' - y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1)(n+2)A_{n+2} t^n + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nA_n t^n - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n t^n = (2A_2 - A_0) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((n+1)(n+2)A_{n+2} + (2n-1)A_n)$ . Since this is equal to zero, each coefficient is equal to zero, so  $2A_2 - A_0 = 0$  and  $(n+1)(n+2)A_{n+2} + (2n-1)A_n = 0$  for  $n \geq 1$ . Thus  $A_2 = \frac{1}{2}A_0$  and  $A_{n+2} = \frac{1-2n}{(n+1)(n+2)} A_n$  for  $n \geq 1$  (as luck would have it, this relation holds true for  $n=0$  too). From the initial conditions,  $A_0 = 1$  and  $A_1 = 0$ ; since  $A_{n+2}$  is a multiple of  $A_n$ , it thus follows that all odd-power coefficients  $A_{2n+1}$  are zero, while the even-terms we may derive through observation of the patterns:  $A_0 = 1$ ,  $A_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $A_4 = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{-3}{3 \cdot 4}$ ,  $A_6 = \frac{1(-3)}{4!} \cdot \frac{(-7)}{5 \cdot 6}$ , and in general, we find that for  $n \geq 1$ ,  $A_{2n} = \frac{(-1)^{n-1} 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdots (4k-5)}{2n!}$ , so

$$y = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1} 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdots (4k-5)}{2n!} t^{2n}$$

**7.2.25.** Find the solution of the initial value problem  $(1 - t^2)y'' - 8ty' - 12y = 0$ ;  $y(0) = 1$ ,  $y'(0) = 0$  in the form of a power series. If it is feasible to do so, give the coefficients in closed form.

Let  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n t^n$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(y) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+2)(n+1)A_{n+2}t^n - \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1)A_n t^n - 8 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nA_n t^n - 12 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n t^n \\ &= (2A_2 - 12A_0) + (6A_3 - 8A_1 - 12A_1)t \\ &\quad + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (n+2)(n+1)A_{n+2} - (n(n-1) + 8n + 12)A_n t^n \end{aligned}$$

Since this is equal to zero, each coefficient is equal to zero, so  $A_2 = 6A_0$ ,  $A_3 = \frac{10}{3}A_1$ , and  $A_{n+2} = \frac{n^2+7n+12}{(n+2)(n+1)}A_n = \frac{2(n+3)(n+4)}{(n+2)}n+1)A_n$  for  $n > 2$ . From the initial conditions,  $A_0 = 1$  and  $A_1 = 0$ , so using the recurrence, since  $A_{n+2}$  is a multiple of  $A_n$ , it is clear that every odd coefficient  $A_{2n+1}$  is zero. The even coefficients, on the other hand, are given by  $A_0 = 1$ ,  $A_2 = 6$ ,  $A_4 = \frac{5 \cdot 6}{3 \cdot 4}6 = 15$ , and so forth. It can be easily inductively shown that  $A_{2n} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{(2n+2)!}{(2n)!} = (n+1)(2n+1)$ , so the solution is  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1)(2n+1)t^{2n}$ .

**7.2.31.** Find a polynomial that satisfies the ODE  $y'' + ty' - 6y = 0$ .

Let  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n t^n$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} y'' + ty' - 6y &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+2)(n+1)A_{n+2}t^n + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nA_n t^n - 6 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n t^n \\ &= 2A_2 - 6A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((n+2)(n+1)A_{n+2} + (n-6)A_n)t^n \end{aligned}$$

Since this is equal to zero, each coefficient is equal to zero, so  $A_2 = 3A_0$  and  $A_{n+2} = \frac{(6-n)A_n}{(n+2)(n+1)}$ . Note that this guarantees that  $A_8 = 0$ , and thus that  $A_{10}, A_{12}$ , etc. are zero. No such guarantee is made for the odd coefficients, but we can force them to be zero by letting  $A_1 = 0$ ; for simplicity's sake, let  $A_0 = 1$ . Then, while  $0 = A_1 = A_3 = A_5 = A_7 = A_8 = A_9 = \dots$ , the only nonzero coefficients of this series will be  $A_0 = 1$ ,  $A_2 = \frac{6}{1 \cdot 2} = 3$ ,  $A_4 = \frac{4}{3 \cdot 4}(-3) = 1$ , and  $A_6 = \frac{2}{5 \cdot 6} = \frac{1}{15}$ . Thus such a polynomial is  $y = 1 + 3t^2 + t^4 + \frac{1}{15}t^6$ .