Applications of Laplace Transform in Science and Engineering: A Comprehensive Study Across Disciplines

Rayapati Ramakrishna Reddy
Assistant professor, Department of mathematics, Am reddy memorial college of engineering and technology, Petlurivaripalem, Narasaropet -522601

Abstract- Laplace transformations have found widespread applications in various fields of science and engineering, enabling the modeling, analysis, and solution of complex differential equations. This paper explores four diverse applications of Laplace transformations in pharmaceutical sciences, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, chemical engineering, and civil engineering. The paper highlights how Laplace transformations offer a powerful mathematical tool for solving problems in these domains. Specifically, we investigate problems related to pharmaceutical dosage decay, the dynamics of a spring-mass-damper system, electrical circuit analysis, chemical concentration dynamics, and the response of civil engineering structures to dynamic loads. In each case, Laplace transformations are applied to simplify complex differential equations and solve for important variables of interest.

Key Words: Laplace Transformations, Problem-Solving, Pharmaceutical Sciences, differential equations

1. INTRODUCTION

Laplace transformations are a fundamental mathematical tool with wide-ranging applications in the fields of science and engineering. This journal paper delves into the versatile application of Laplace transformations, emphasizing their role in addressing intricate real-world challenges. By converting complex differential equations into more manageable forms, Laplace transformations facilitate the modeling, analysis, and resolution of a diverse array of dynamic systems across scientific and engineering domains.

Applications and Significance: The paper explores four specific applications of Laplace transformations, each representing a distinct scientific or engineering discipline, including pharmaceutical sciences, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, chemical engineering, and civil engineering. Through detailed examples, it illustrates how Laplace transformations empower problem-solving and provide deeper insights into the behavior of dynamic systems. These applications underscore the substantial impact of Laplace transformations in enhancing scientific and engineering comprehension, offering researchers, engineers, and scientists the means to gain valuable insights into dynamic systems and processes, ultimately driving progress in their respective fields. This journal paper underscores the relevance and importance of Laplace transformations as a bridge between theoretical mathematical concepts and practical, real-world problem-solving within the realms of science and engineering, while also highlighting the potential for further research and exploration, promising innovative solutions to complex challenges.

2. OBJECTIVES

1. Demonstrate the Utility of Laplace Transformations: The primary objective is to illustrate the versatility and utility of Laplace transformations in simplifying complex mathematical problems. The paper will show how Laplace transformations can be applied in different scientific and engineering domains to address practical challenges.
2. Highlight Multidisciplinary Applications: This journal paper will showcase applications of Laplace transformations in diverse fields, including pharmaceutical sciences, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, chemical engineering, and civil engineering. The goal is to emphasize the multidisciplinary nature of Laplace transformations.
3. Provide Practical Examples: Through detailed examples in each field, the paper aims to provide practical insights into how Laplace transformations

can be used to solve real-world problems. These examples will elucidate the step-by-step process of applying Laplace transformations

3. APPLICATIONS

3.1 APPLICATION 1

Population growth

QUESTION

In a different town, the population grows at a rate proportional to the number of people presently living in the town. After seven years, the population has tripled, and after twelve years, the population is 270,000. Estimate the number of people initially living in this town.

Answer: To estimate the number of people initially living in the town, we can use a mathematical model based on the given information. Let P0 be the initial population at t = 0, and α be the constant of proportionality. The mathematical model can be expressed as:

1. dP/dt = αP

We have the following two pieces of information:

1. After seven years, the population has tripled: P(t=7) = 3P0
2. After twelve years, the population is 270,000: P(t=12) = 270,000

We can use these conditions to solve for P0 and α.

From the first condition: 3P0 = P0(s - α)

From the second condition: 270,000 = P0(s - α)

By dividing these equations to eliminate s - α, we get: (3P0) / 270,000 = (P0(s - α)) / (P0(s - α))

Simplifying, we find: (3 / 270,000) = 1

From this, we determine that α = 1/90,000.

Next, we calculate s using the value of α: s = (3 / 270,000) + α = 10 / 270,000

Now, we can use the Laplace transform equation to solve for P0: L[P(t)] = P0(s - α)

Substituting the values: L[P(t)] = P0((10 / 270,000) - (1 / 90,000)) = P0(5 / 270,000)

Since P(t) = P0 when t = 0, we can equate this to 1: 1 = 5 / 270,000

Solving for P0, we find: P0 = 270,000 / 5 = 54,000

So, the initial population in the town is 54,000.

3.2 APPLICATION 2

Pharmaceutical sciences.

A certain medication has a half-life of 8 hours in the human body. If a patient takes an initial dose of 400 milligrams of the medication, how much of the medication will remain in their system after 16 hours?

Answer: To determine how much of the medication will remain in the patient's system after 16 hours, we can use the concept of exponential decay, where the amount of the substance decreases over time.

The decay of the medication can be modeled with the following equation:

A(t) = A0 * e^(-αt)

Where:

- A(t) is the amount of medication at time t.
- A0 is the initial dose of the medication (400 milligrams).
- α is the decay constant, which can be found using the half-life.

Given that the half-life is 8 hours, we can use this information to find the value of α:

The half-life formula is given as:

t half = (ln(2) / α)

Substituting the known values:

8 = (ln(2) / α)

Now, solve for α:

α = (ln(2) / 8)

With the value of α, we can now calculate the remaining amount of medication after 16 hours:

A(16) = 400 * e^(-ln(2) / 8 * 16)

Now, let's calculate A(16) using inverse Laplace transforms:

We have already determined the Laplace transform of the solution as:

A(s) = (A(0) / (s + (ln(2) / 8)))

Now, to find A(16), we take the inverse Laplace transform of this function:

A(16) = L^(-1)[(A(0) / (s + (ln(2) / 8)))]

The inverse Laplace transform of (1 / (s + (ln(2) / 8))) is:

L^(-1)[(1 / (s + (ln(2) / 8)))] = e^(-8 * ln(2) * 16)

Now, substitute this into our equation:

A(16) = 400 * e^(-ln(2) / 8 * 16)

Given that A(0) = 400 milligrams, we can calculate A(16):

A(16) ≈ 400 * e^(-2 * ln(2))

Using the properties of exponents:

A(16) ≈ 400 * ((e^(ln(2)))^-2)

A(16) ≈ 400 * 2^(-2)

A(16) ≈ 400 * 1/4
A(16) ≈ 100 milligrams
So, after 16 hours, approximately 100 milligrams of the medication will remain in the patient's system.

APPLICATION 3
Mechanical engineering
Problem: In a mechanical engineering laboratory, a spring-mass-damper system is subjected to an external force. The equation of motion for this system is given by:
$2m\ddot{x}(t)+0.5c\dot{x}(t)+4kx(t)=5\cos(2t)$
Where:

- m is the mass of the system (in kilograms).
- c is the damping coefficient (in newton-seconds per meter).
- k is the spring constant (in newtons per meter).
- (t) is the displacement of the mass from its equilibrium position (in meters).
- (t) is the external force applied to the system (in newtons).
- t is time (in seconds).

Given the following values:

- m = 2 kg
- c = 0.5 N·s/m
- k = 4 N/m
- $F(t)$ = 5cos($2t$) N

Find the displacement (t) as a function of time.

Solution: We can solve this problem by taking the Laplace transform of the equation of motion, solving for X(s), and then finding the inverse Laplace transform to obtain (t).
Taking the Laplace transform of the equation, we get:
$2s2X(s)+0.5sX(s)+4X(s)=5s2+4$
Solving for X(s), we get:
$X(s)=5(2s2+0.5s+4)s2+4$
Now, we can use partial fraction decomposition to break this into simpler fractions. After performing the decomposition, we obtain:
$X(s)=4023(\sin(2t)2-\cos(2t)4)+2523-1546e-2t$
This equation represents the displacement (t) as a function of time.
The displacement (t) of the mass as a function of time is given by:
$(t)=4023(\sin(2t)2-\cos(2t)4)+2523-1546e-2t$
This equation describes the motion of the system in response to the applied external force.

3.4 APPLICATION 4
Electrical engineering
Problem
In an electrical circuit, a resistor (R) and an inductor (L) are connected in series. The circuit is subjected to a voltage source E(t) = 10e^(-2t) volts. If the initial current through the circuit is zero (I(0) = 0), find the expression for the current (I) as a function of time using Laplace transformations.
Solution:
The circuit can be described by the following differential equation:
L di/dt + Ri = E(t)
Where:

- L is the inductance in henrys (H)
- R is the resistance in ohms (Ω)
- E(t) is the voltage source in volts (V)
- I(t) is the current in amperes (A)
- t is time in seconds (s)

Taking the Laplace transform of the equation, we get:
LsI(s) - LI(0) + RI(s) = E(s)
Since I(0) = 0 (initial current is zero), the equation simplifies to:
LsI(s) + RI(s) = E(s)
Now, we can substitute the values and the Laplace transform of E(t):
LsI(s) + RI(s) = 10 / (s + 2)
Solving for I(s), we get:
I(s) = 10 / [(s + 2)(Ls + R)]
Now, we need to find the inverse Laplace transform to obtain the expression for I(t). Using partial fraction decomposition, we can write:
I(s) = A / (s + 2) + B / (Ls + R)
Multiplying both sides by the common denominator and solving for A and B:
10 = A(Ls + R) + Bs + 2B
Now, we can solve for A and B:
A = 10 / 2 = 5 B = 10 - 5R
So, I(s) can be expressed as:
I(s) = 5 / (s + 2) - (5R / (Ls + R))
Now, we can find the inverse Laplace transform to obtain the expression for I(t):
I(t) = 5e^(-2t) - 5Re^(-Rt/L)
This equation represents the current in the circuit as a function of time t.

3.5 APPLICATION 5

Chemical engineering

Problem: In a chemical engineering process, a tank initially contains 500 liters of a chemical solution with a concentration of 2 grams per liter. A chemical is continuously added to the tank at a rate of 4 liters per minute, and the mixture is well stirred. Simultaneously, the mixture is drained from the tank at a rate of 6 liters per minute.

The rate of change of the concentration (C) of the chemical in the tank can be modeled using the following differential equation:

dC/dt = (4/500) - (6/500)C

Where:

- C represents the concentration of the chemical in grams per liter.
- t represents time in minutes.

Using Laplace transforms, find the concentration of the chemical (C) as a function of time.

Solution: To solve this problem, we can apply Laplace transforms to the differential equation:

L[dC/dt] = L[(4/500) - (6/500)C]

sC(s) - C(0) = (4/500) - (6/500)C(s)

Where:

- C(s) is the Laplace transform of the concentration C(t).
- C(0) is the initial concentration, which is 2 grams per liter.

Now, solve for C(s):

sC(s) + (6/500)C(s) = (4/500) + 2

Factor out C(s) and simplify:

C(s)(s + 6/500) = 4/500 + 2

C(s) = (4/500 + 2) / (s + 6/500)

Now, find the inverse Laplace transform to obtain the concentration as a function of time, C(t):

C(t) = L^(-1)[(4/500 + 2) / (s + 6/500)]

Using inverse Laplace transform tables or a calculator, you can find that:

C(t) = 2 + (4/500)e^(-3t)

So, the concentration of the chemical in the tank as a function of time is given by:

C(t) = 2 + (4/500)e^(-3t) grams per liter.

3.6 APPLICATION 6

Civil engineering

In a civil engineering project, a bridge is being constructed over a river. The bridge's foundations are being subjected to dynamic loading from passing vehicles. The force applied to the foundation can be modeled by the following differential equation:

m * d^2u(t)/dt^2 + c * du(t)/dt + ku(t) = F(t)

Where:

- u(t) represents the vertical displacement of the foundation at time t.
- m is the mass of the foundation (in kilograms).
- c is the damping coefficient (in newton-seconds per meter).
- k is the stiffness of the foundation (in newtons per meter).
- F(t) is the dynamic force applied to the foundation (in newtons).
- t is time (in seconds).

Given the following values:

- m = 5000 kg
- c = 2000 N·s/m
- k = 100,000 N/m
- F(t) = 4000 * sin(3t) N

Using Laplace transforms, find the displacement u(t) of the foundation as a function of time.

Solution: To solve this problem, we can apply Laplace transforms to the differential equation:

L[m * d^2u(t)/dt^2 + c * du(t)/dt + ku(t)] = L[F(t)]

Where:

- L[...] denotes the Laplace transform.

Using properties of Laplace transforms, the equation becomes:

m * (s^2U(s) - su(0) - du(0)/dt) + c * (sU(s) - u(0)) + k * U(s) = F(s)

Where:

- U(s) is the Laplace transform of u(t).
- u(0) is the initial displacement (assumed to be zero), and du(0)/dt is the initial velocity (also assumed to be zero).

Now, we can substitute the given values and the Laplace transform of F(t):

5000 * (s^2U(s)) + 2000 * (sU(s)) + 100000 * U(s) = 4000 * (3 / (s^2 + 9))

Solving for U(s):

U(s) = [4000 * (3 / (s^2 + 9))] / (5000 * s^2 + 2000 * s + 100000)

Now, find the inverse Laplace transform to obtain the displacement u(t) as a function of time:

u(t) = L^(-1)[U(s)]
Using inverse Laplace transform tables or a calculator, you can find u(t) as a function of time. The result will be the vertical displacement of the foundation over time due to the dynamic loading from passing vehicles.
This problem demonstrates how Laplace transforms can be applied to analyze the dynamic behavior of civil engineering structures under varying forces.

4.CONCLUSION

Laplace transformations are a fundamental mathematical technique with diverse applications in various scientific and engineering fields. They simplify complex differential equations, enabling a deeper understanding of dynamic systems. These applications span pharmaceutical sciences (medication dosage tracking), mechanical engineering (spring-mass-damper system analysis), electrical engineering (circuit behavior under time-varying voltage), chemical engineering (substance concentration in stirred tanks), and civil engineering (structural displacement assessment under dynamic loads).This versatility showcases the importance of Laplace transformations in solving real-world problems and optimizing processes. They empower engineers, scientists, and researchers to gain insights into dynamic system behavior. Transforming real-world challenges into solvable equations is a critical skill, driving advancements in science and engineering. Ongoing research in diverse domains promises valuable solutions to complex problems through Laplace transformations.

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