

# LAPLACE TRANSFORM

## PART 1

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# LAPLACE TRANSFORM

## Definition 1

Let  $f(t)$  be a complex function of a real variable and let the integral  $\int_0^{\infty} f(t) e^{-pt} dt$  exist and have finite value at least for one complex number  $p$ .

Then **Laplace transform of function  $f(t)$**  is defined by an improper integral

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

Function  $f(t)$  is called a **subject**.

Laplace transform is a function of complex variable  $p$ ,  $p = \operatorname{Re} p + i \operatorname{Im} p$ .

Domain of Laplace transform is a set of all complex numbers for which the integral (1) is convergent.

## EXAMPLE 1

Laplace transform of function  $f(t) = 1$

According to the definition we have:

$$\mathcal{L}\{1\} = \int_0^{\infty} 1 e^{-pt} dt = \lim_{B \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^B e^{-pt} dt = \frac{1}{-p} \lim_{B \rightarrow +\infty} e^{-pB} - \frac{1}{-p}$$

If  $p$  is a complex number for which  $\text{Re } p > 0$ , then  $\lim_{B \rightarrow +\infty} e^{-pB} = 0$

And

$$\mathcal{L}\{1\} = \int_0^{\infty} 1 e^{-pt} dt = \frac{-1}{p} \underbrace{\lim_{B \rightarrow +\infty} e^{-pB}}_0 - \frac{1}{-p} = \frac{1}{p}$$

Laplace transform of function  $f(t) = 1$  is  $\mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{p}$ .

## EXAMPLE 2

Laplace transform of function  $f(t) = e^{at}$ , where  $a$  is a complex number. Podle definice je

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at}\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{at} e^{-pt} dt = \lim_{B \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^B e^{(a-p)t} dt = \frac{1}{a-p} \lim_{B \rightarrow +\infty} e^{(a-p)B} - \frac{1}{a-p}$$

If  $p$  is a complex number for which  $\text{Re } p > \text{Re } a$  then  $\lim_{B \rightarrow +\infty} e^{(a-p)B} = 0$

and

$$\lim_{B \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^B e^{(a-p)t} dt = \frac{-1}{p-a} \underbrace{\lim_{B \rightarrow +\infty} e^{(a-p)B}}_0 + \frac{1}{p-a} = \frac{1}{p-a}$$

Laplace transform of function  $e^{at}$  is  $\mathcal{L}\{e^{at}\} = \frac{1}{p-a}$ .

## PŘÍKLAD 3

Laplace transform of function  $\cos t$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{\cos t\} &= \int_0^{\infty} \cos t \, e^{-pt} \, dt = \left| \begin{array}{ll} u = \cos t & u' = -\sin t \\ v' = e^{-pt} & v = -\frac{1}{p} e^{-pt} \end{array} \right| = \\ &= -\frac{1}{p} \cos t \, e^{-pt} \Big|_0^{\infty} - \frac{1}{p} \int_0^{\infty} \sin t \, e^{-pt} \, dt = \left| \begin{array}{ll} u = \sin t & u' = \cos t \\ v' = e^{-pt} & v = -\frac{1}{p} e^{-pt} \end{array} \right| \\ &= -\frac{1}{p} \cos t \, e^{-pt} \Big|_0^{\infty} - \frac{1}{p} \left( -\frac{1}{p} \sin t \, e^{-pt} \Big|_0^{\infty} - \frac{1}{p} \int_0^{\infty} -\cos t \, e^{-pt} \, dt \right) = \\ \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} \cos t \, e^{-pt} \, dt}_I &= -\frac{1}{p} \cos t \, e^{-pt} \Big|_0^{\infty} + \frac{1}{p^2} \sin t \, e^{-pt} \Big|_0^{\infty} - \frac{1}{p^2} \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} \cos t \, e^{-pt} \, dt}_I\end{aligned}$$

## EXAMPLE 3 – CONTINUATION

$$I + \frac{1}{p^2} \cdot I = \frac{p^2 + 1}{p^2} \cdot I = -\frac{1}{p} \cos t e^{-pt} \Big|_0^\infty + \frac{1}{p^2} \sin t e^{-pt} \Big|_0^\infty$$

If  $p$  is a complex number for which  $\text{Re } p > 0$  then

$$\lim_{B \rightarrow +\infty} \cos t e^{-pB} = 0, \quad \lim_{B \rightarrow +\infty} \sin t e^{-pB} = 0$$

and

$$\frac{p^2 + 1}{p^2} \cdot I = -\frac{1}{p} (0 - 1) + \frac{1}{p^2} (0 - 0) \Rightarrow I = \frac{p}{p^2 + 1}$$

Laplace transform of function  $\cos t$  is  $\mathcal{L}\{\cos t\} = \frac{p}{p^2 + 1}$ .

## EXAMPLE 4

According the definition we can find Laplace transform of  $\sin t$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\sin t\} = \int_0^{\infty} \sin t e^{-pt} dt = \dots \text{ 2 times by parts } \dots$$

$$= -\frac{1}{p} \sin t e^{-pt} \Big|_0^{\infty} + \frac{1}{p^2} \cos t e^{-pt} \Big|_0^{\infty} - \frac{1}{p^2} \int_0^{\infty} \sin t e^{-pt} dt$$

$$\underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} \sin t e^{-pt} dt}_I = -\frac{1}{p} \sin t e^{-pt} \Big|_0^{\infty} + \frac{1}{p^2} \cos t e^{-pt} \Big|_0^{\infty} - \frac{1}{p^2} \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} \sin t e^{-pt} dt}_I$$

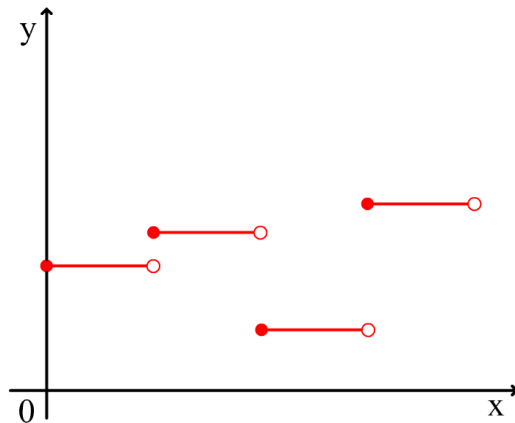
Analogosly, if  $\text{Re } p > 0$ , we obtain

$$\frac{p^2 + 1}{p^2} \cdot I = -\frac{1}{p} (0 - 0) + \frac{1}{p^2} (1 - 0) \Rightarrow I = \frac{1}{p^2 + 1}$$

Laplace transform of function  $\sin t$  is  $\mathcal{L}\{\sin t\} = \frac{1}{p^2 + 1}$ .

# PIECEWISE CONTINUOUS FUNCTION

**Definition 2** Function  $f$  has at a point  $x$  **discontinuity of 1<sup>st</sup> kind** if it is not continuous at  $x$ , but it has one sided finite limits at  $x$  (they may differ).



## Definition 3

Function  $f(t)$  defined on  $\langle a, b \rangle$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ , is called **piecewise continuous**, if  $f$  has at  $\langle a, b \rangle$  only finite number of points with discontinuity of 1<sup>st</sup> kind.



# ACCUMULATED POINT

## Definition 4

A point  $x$  is called **an accumulated point of set  $M$** , if in each neighborhood there exists at least one point of set  $M$  different from  $x$ .

## Examples

1. Set of natural numbers has only one accumulated point plus infinity.
2. Set  $\left\{ -1^n + \frac{1}{n} \right\}, n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  has two accumulated points  $-1$  and  $1$ .
3. Open interval  $(a, b)$  has infinitely many accumulated points in  $\mathbb{R}$ : every point within interval  $(a, b)$  and also  $a$  and  $b$ .

# FUNCTION OF EXPONENTIAL ORDER

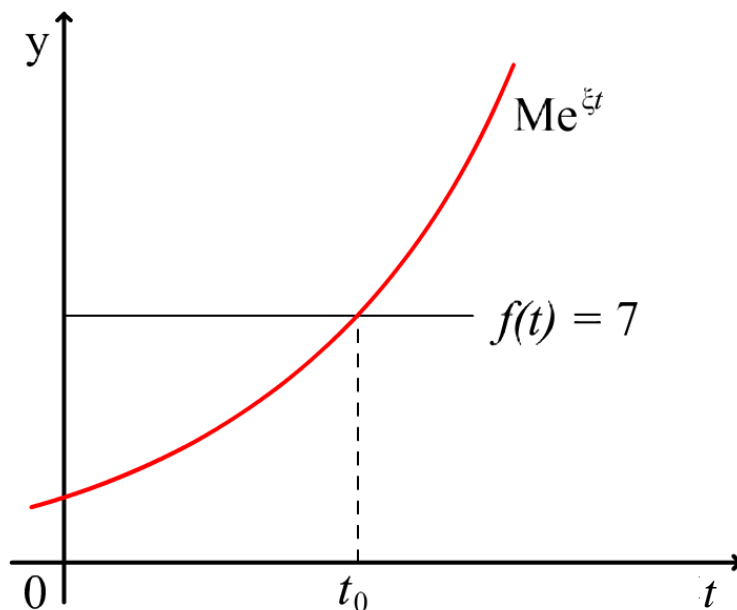
**Definition 5** Function  $f(t)$  is of exponential order with growth index  $\xi_1$ , if point  $+\infty$  is accumulated point of its domain and if there exist real numbers  $t_0$  and  $M > 0$  so that the inequality

$$|f(t)| \leq M e^{\xi_1 t}$$

holds for every  $t > t_0$ , for which  $f(t)$  is defined.

We write  $f(t) = \mathcal{O}(e^{\xi_1 t})$  (symbol of a function of exponential order)

Example



# FUNCTION OF EXPONENTIAL ORDER

## Remark:

If number  $\xi_1$  is growth index of function  $f$ , then also  $\xi_1' > \xi_1$  is its growth index.

Every function of exponential order has infinitely many growth indices. Usually, we use the smallest one.

## Examples of functions of exponential order:

- a) Every bounded function  $f(t)$  (defined for big enough values of  $t$ ) is of exponential order with growth index 0.
- b) Function  $e^{at}$ ,  $a$  real is of exponential order with growth index  $a$ .
- c) Function  $t^n$ ,  $n$  non-negative, is of exponential order with growth index equal to any positive number.

# SUBJECT OF STANDARD TYPE

## Definition 6

Complex function  $f(t)$  of real variable  $t$  is called **subject of standard type**, if it has the following three properties:

1.  $f(t)$  is piecewise continuous on  $\langle 0, +\infty \rangle$ .
2.  $f(t)$  is of exponential order.
3.  $f(t)$  is equal to zero for all  $t < 0$ .

# THEOREM ON THE EXISTENCE OF LT

## Theorem 1

Let  $f(t)$  be a subject of standard type(SST) and  $\xi_1$  its growth index.  
Then Laplace transform

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

exists and the integral  $\int_0^{\infty} f(t) e^{-pt} dt$  is absolutely convergent for all complex  $p$ , for which  $Re\ p > \xi_1$  .  
(So, Laplace transform is defined in a half-plane  $Re\ p > \xi_1$  ).

**Remark:** The above theorem states sufficient condition of existence and unicity of LT. There might exist functions, that have Laplace transform, but are not SST.

# ON LINEARITY OF LT

## Theorem 2

Let  $f_i(t)$  are SSTs and let  $F_i(p)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$  are respective LTs.

Let  $a_i$  are auxiliary complex constants.

Then pro for all complex numbers  $p$ , for which  $F_i(p)$  are defined,

The following identity holds:

$$\mathcal{L} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n a_i f_i(t) \right\} = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i F_i(p)$$

Important!

The theorem holds only upon the assumption of finite number  $n$  of subjects of standard type.

## LINEARITY OF LT - EXAMPLES

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{3\cos t - 5e^{-2t}\} &= 3\mathcal{L}\{\cos t\} - 5\mathcal{L}\{e^{-2t}\} = \\ &= 3\frac{p}{p^2 + 1} - 5\frac{1}{p + 2}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{-4 + 7t - 3\sin 2t\} &= -4\mathcal{L}\{1\} + 7\mathcal{L}\{t\} + 3\mathcal{L}\{\sin 2t\} = \\ &= -4\frac{1}{p} + 7\frac{1}{p^2} - 3\frac{2}{p^2 + 4}\end{aligned}$$

## CHANGE OF SCALE

**Theorem 3** Let  $f(t)$  is  $\text{SST}$   $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(p)$  and let  $k$  is positive constant. Then function  $g(t) = f(kt)$  is also  $\text{SST}$  and the following identities hold:

$$\mathcal{L}\{g(t)\} = \mathcal{L}\{f(kt)\} = \frac{1}{k} F\left(\frac{p}{k}\right)$$

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{f\left(\frac{t}{k}\right)\right\} = k F(k p)$$



# SHIFT IN LT

**Theorem 4** Let  $f(t)$  is SST is of exponential order  $\alpha$ ,  $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(p)$  and let  $a \in R$ .

Then:

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at} f(t)\} = F(p - a) \quad p > a + \alpha$$

**Proof:** Both functions  $f(t)$  and  $e^{at}$  are SSTs so is their product. Using the definition we get:

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at} \cdot f(t)\} = \int_0^{\infty} f(t) e^{at} e^{-pt} dt = \int_0^{\infty} f(t) e^{-(p-a)t} dt = F(p - a)$$

## SHIFT IN LT- EXAMPLES

Laplace transform of function  $e^{5t} \cdot \sin(2t)$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\sin(\omega t)\} = \frac{\omega}{p^2 + \omega^2} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}\{\sin(2t)\} = \frac{2}{p^2 + 4}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at} \sin(\omega t)\} = \frac{\omega}{(p-a)^2 + \omega^2} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}\{e^{5t} \sin(2t)\} = \frac{2}{(p-5)^2 + 4}$$

## ON DERIVATIVE OF LT

**Theorem 5** Let  $f(t)$  be SST of exponential order  $a$ ,  $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(p)$ . .  
Then:

$$\mathcal{L}\{t \cdot f(t)\} = -F'(p) = -\frac{d}{dp}(F(p)) \quad p > a$$

**Remark:** As function  $t \cdot f(t)$  is also SST,  
the above theorem can be used for function  $t \cdot f(t)$  as well.

$$\mathcal{L}\{t \cdot t \cdot f(t)\} = -\frac{d}{dp} \mathcal{L}\{t \cdot f(t)\} = \frac{d^2}{dp^2}(F(p))$$

By means of mathematical induction the following formula can be proven:

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^n \cdot f(t)\} = (-1)^n \frac{d^n}{dp^n}(F(p)), \quad n \text{ natural number.}$$

# DERIVATIVE OF LT - EXAMPLES

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at}\} = \frac{1}{p-a}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t e^{at}\} = -\frac{d}{d p} \left( \frac{1}{p-a} \right) = \frac{1}{(p-a)^2}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\sin(\omega t)\} = \frac{\omega}{p^2 + \omega^2}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t \sin(\omega t)\} = -\frac{d}{d p} \left( \frac{\omega}{p^2 + \omega^2} \right) = \frac{2p\omega}{(p^2 + \omega^2)^2}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\cos(\omega t)\} = \frac{p}{p^2 + \omega^2}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t \cos(\omega t)\} = -\frac{d}{d p} \left( \frac{p}{p^2 + \omega^2} \right) = \frac{p^2 - \omega^2}{(p^2 + \omega^2)^2}$$

# INVERSE LAPLACE TRANSFORM

Inverse LT is not uniquely defined. According to definition, two functions, that differ only in finite number of points have identical integral.

Under the assumption that functions that are SST with values at points of discontinuity defined by

$$f(t) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0+} \frac{f(t + \varepsilon) + f(t - \varepsilon)}{2}.$$

Lerch theorem (On uniqueness) holds.

Simply speaking:

To the given  $F(p)$  there exists at least one subject of standard type  $f(t)$  with the property defined above that has LT  $\mathcal{L}(f(t)) = F(p)$ .

Such a subject is denoted by  $:\mathcal{L}^{-1}F(p)$ .

**Remark:** Analogous statements hold for inverse LT.

## INVERSE LT OF RATIONAL FUNCTION

### Theorem 6

Necessary and sufficient condition for a rational function  $F(p)$  to be A Laplace transform of a SST is that the function  $F(p)$  is strictly rational function.

**In other words:**  $F(p)$  must have the order of numerator strictly smaller than the order of denominator.

How the subject of the strictly rational function can be found?

By factoring the function into a sum of partial fractions and then using inverse LT the origin (subject) can be found.

## INVERSE LT

Find SST to the Laplace transform  $F(p) = \frac{p+2}{p^3 - p}$

$$F(p) = \frac{p+2}{p^3 - p} = \frac{p+2}{p(p+1)(p-1)} = \frac{A}{p} + \frac{B}{p+1} + \frac{C}{p-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow A = -2, \quad B = \frac{1}{2}, \quad C = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$F(p) = -2 \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{p+1} + \frac{3}{2} \frac{1}{p-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(t) &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(p)\} = -2\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{p}\right\} + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{p+1}\right\} + \frac{3}{2}\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{p-1}\right\} = \\ &= -2 \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{2}e^{-t} + \frac{3}{2}e^t \end{aligned}$$

## ON t-DERIVATIVE RULE

**Theorem 7** Let  $f'(t)$  is SST of exponential order  $\alpha$ ,  $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(p)$ .

Then

$$\mathcal{L}\{f'(t)\} = pF(p) - f(0_+), \quad p > \max(0, \alpha)$$

**Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\mathcal{L}\{f'(t)\}} &= \int_0^{\infty} f'(t) e^{-pt} dt = \left| \begin{array}{ll} u = e^{-pt} & u' = -p e^{-pt} \\ v' = f'(t) & v = f(t) \end{array} \right| = \\ & \left[ e^{-pt} f(t) \right]_0^{+\infty} - \int_0^{\infty} p f(t) e^{-pt} dt = \underline{-f(0_+) + p \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}} \end{aligned}$$



# ON t-DERIVATIVE RULE CONSEQUENCE

Let  $f^{(n)}(t)$  is SST of exponential order  $\alpha$ ,  $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(p)$  .

Then for  $p > \max(\alpha, 0)$  the following identity holds .

$$\mathcal{L}\{f^{(n)}(t)\} = p^n F(p) - p^{n-1} f(0_+) - p^{n-2} f'(0_+) - \dots - p f^{(n-2)}(0_+) - f^{(n-1)}(0_+)$$

**Proof:** Using of mathematical induction.

## ON t-DERIVATIVE RULE – AN EXAMPLE

$$y'' + 5y' = 5, \quad p.p. \quad y(0+) = 1, \quad y'(0+) = 0$$

$$p^2 Y(p) - p \cdot y(0+) - y'(0+) + 5(pY(p) - y(0+)) = \frac{5}{p}$$

$$p^2 Y(p) - p + 5(pY(p) - 1) = \frac{5}{p}$$

$$p(p+5)Y(p) = \frac{5}{p} + p + 5$$

$$Y(p) = \frac{p^2 + 5p + 5}{p^2(p+5)} = \frac{A}{p} + \frac{B}{p^2} + \frac{C}{p+5} \Rightarrow A = \frac{4}{5}, B = 1, C = \frac{1}{5}$$

$$Y(p) = \frac{4}{5} \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p^2} + \frac{1}{5} \frac{1}{p+5} \Rightarrow y(t) = \frac{4}{5} + t + \frac{1}{5} e^{-5t}$$

# INITIAL VALUE PROBLEM OF ODE WITH CONSTANT COEFFICIENTS – AN EXAMPLE

$$y'' + y = \cos t, \quad p.p. \quad y(0+) = -1, \quad y'(0+) = 1$$

$$p^2 Y(p) - p \cdot y(0+) - y'(0+) + Y(p) = \frac{p}{p^2 + 1}$$

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

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

$$Y(p) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{2p}{(p^2 + 1)^2} - \frac{p}{p^2 + 1} + \frac{1}{p^2 + 1} \Rightarrow y(t) = \frac{1}{2} t \sin t - \cos t + \sin t$$

## ON t-INTEGRAL RULE

**Theorem 8** Let  $f(t)$  is SST of exponential order  $\alpha$ ,  $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(p)$ .

Then

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\int_0^t f(u) \, du\right\} = \frac{F(p)}{p}, \quad p > \max(0, \alpha)$$

**Proof:**

$$g(t) = \int_0^t f(u) \, du \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{L}\{g(t)\} = \mathcal{L}\left\{\int_0^t f(u) \, du\right\} = G(p)$$

$$g'(t) = f(t), \quad g(0_+) = \int_0^0 f(u) \, du = 0$$

$$F(p) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \mathcal{L}\{g'(t)\} = pG(p) - g(0_+) = pG(p)$$

$$G(p) = \frac{F(p)}{p}$$

# ON t-INTEGRAL RULE – AN EXAMPLE

Solve integral equation:

$$x(t) - 2 \int_0^t x(u) \, du = \sin t$$

$$X(p) - 2 \frac{X(p)}{p} = \frac{1}{p^2 + 1}$$

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

$$X(p) \left( \frac{p-2}{p} \right) = \frac{1}{p^2 + 1} \Rightarrow X(p) = \frac{p}{(p^2 + 1)(p-2)}$$

$$X(p) = \frac{A}{p-2} + \frac{Bp+C}{p^2+1} \Rightarrow X(p) = \frac{\frac{2}{5}}{p-2} + \frac{-\frac{2}{5}p}{p^2+1} + \frac{\frac{1}{5}}{p^2+1}$$

$$x(t) = \frac{2}{5} e^{2t} - \frac{2}{5} \cos t + \frac{1}{5} \sin t$$

The integral equation can be differentiated – the result is differential equation with initial condition.

$$x(t) - 2 \int_0^t x(u) \, du = \sin t \quad \rightarrow \quad x'(t) - 2x(t) = \cos t, \quad x(0) = 0$$

$$pX(p) - x(0_+) - 2X(p) = \frac{p}{p^2 + 1}$$

$$X(p)(p - 2) = \frac{p}{p^2 + 1}$$

$$X(p) = \frac{p}{(p^2 + 1)(p - 2)}$$

$$X(p) = \frac{A}{p - 2} + \frac{Bp + C}{p^2 + 1}$$

$$X(p) = \frac{\frac{2}{5}}{p - 2} + \frac{-\frac{2}{5}p}{p^2 + 1} + \frac{\frac{1}{5}}{p^2 + 1}$$

$$x(t) = \frac{2}{5} e^{2t} - \frac{2}{5} \cos t + \frac{1}{5} \sin t$$

# ON t-INTEGRAL RULE – AN EXAMPLE

Solve integro-differential equation

$$x' - 4x + 3 \int_0^t x(u) \, du = 2e^t, \quad \text{with initial condition } x(0_+) = -1$$

$$pX(p) + 1 - 4X(p) + 3 \frac{X(p)}{p} = 2 \frac{1}{p-1}$$

$$X(p) \left( p - 4 + \frac{3}{p} \right) = \frac{2}{p-1} - 1$$

$$X(p) \left( \frac{p^2 - 4p + 3}{p} \right) = \frac{-p + 3}{p-1} \Rightarrow X(p) = \frac{-p}{(p-1)^2}$$

$$X(p) = \frac{-1}{p-1} + \frac{-1}{(p-1)^2}$$

$$x(t) = -1e^t - te^t$$

## SOLVING CAUCHY PROBLEM FOR LINEAR ODE WITH CONSTANT COEFFICIENTS - EXAMPLE

$$y''(x) + 5y'(x) + 6y(x) = 4e^{-x}, \quad p.p. \quad y(0+) = 0, \quad y'(0+) = 0$$

$$p^2 Y(p) - p \cdot y(0+) - y'(0+) + 5(pY(p) - y(0+)) + 6Y(p) = \frac{4}{p+1}$$

$$(p^2 + 5p + 6)Y(p) = \frac{4}{p+1}$$

$$(p+2)(p+3)Y(p) = \frac{4}{p+1}$$

$$Y(p) = \frac{4}{(p+1)(p+2)(p+3)}$$

$$Y(p) = 2 \frac{1}{p+1} - 4 \frac{1}{p+2} + 2 \frac{1}{p+3} \Rightarrow y(t) = 2e^{-x} - 4e^{-2x} + 2e^{-3x}$$