

Laplace Transforms

- We've already seen that some signals, eg, $e^{at} u(t)$, $a > 0$ do not have a Fourier Transform. Also unstable systems do not have a frequency response. What to do?

Modify the FT + develop the Laplace Transform.

Recall that if $s = \sigma + j\omega$

$$e^{st} = e^{\sigma t} \cos(\omega t) + j e^{\sigma t} \sin(\omega t)$$

What happens if we apply e^{st} to an LT system?

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= \int h(\tau) e^{s(t-\tau)} d\tau \\ &= e^{st} \int h(\tau) e^{-s\tau} d\tau \end{aligned}$$

Define the transfer function $H(s) = \int h(\tau) e^{-s\tau} d\tau$

Then $y(t) = \underbrace{H(s)}_{\substack{\text{complex} \\ \text{number} \\ \text{indep. of } t}} \underbrace{e^{st}}_{\substack{\text{complex exponential} \\ \text{with same } \omega \\ \text{and same } \sigma}}$

• Very much like the Fourier case, system only affects magnitude + phase

Now

$$H(s) = H(\sigma + j\omega) = \int h(t) e^{-st} dt$$

$$= \int h(t) e^{-\sigma t} e^{j\omega t} dt$$

Notes

$$H(s)_{\sigma=0} = H(j\omega) = \text{Frequency response}$$

Define $\tilde{h}(t) = e^{\sigma t} h(t)$

$$H(s)_{s=\sigma+j\omega} = \tilde{H}(j\omega)$$

This tells us how to do the inverse Laplace transform

we know

$$\tilde{h}(t) \xleftrightarrow{FT} H(j\omega) = H(s)$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{-\sigma t} h(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H(\sigma + j\omega) e^{j\omega t} d\omega$$

$$h(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H(\sigma + j\omega) e^{(\sigma + j\omega)t} d\omega$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi j} \int_{\sigma - j\infty}^{\sigma + j\infty} H(s) e^{st} ds$$

Note that ds is complex $s = \sigma + j\omega$

Note also that we have to choose σ

ALL THE ABOVE WORKS IN GENERAL

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi j} \int_{\sigma-j\infty}^{\sigma+j\infty} X(s) e^{st} ds \iff X(s) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) e^{-st} dt$$

So when does the Laplace Transform exist?

For what sort of signals is $X(s)$ finite

- Does this also depend on s ?

$$\begin{aligned} X(s) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) e^{-st} dt \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x(t) e^{-\sigma t}) e^{-j\omega t} dt \end{aligned}$$

Fourier Transform of $x(t) e^{-\sigma t}$

\Rightarrow Laplace Transform exists when

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x(t) e^{-\sigma t}| dt < \infty$$

Hence for a given class of signals there will be a range of σ 's such that the Laplace Transform exists. This is called the Region of Convergence (ROC)

The ROC depends only on σ , and hence it is a vertical strip in the $s = \sigma + j\omega$ plane