

On the Post-Widder's Formula for the Laplace Inverse Transform

J. López-Bonilla, O. Puente-Navarrete and V.M. Salazar Del Moral

ESIME-Zacatenco, Instituto Politécnico Nacional, Edif. 4, 1er. Piso,
 Col. Lindavista CP 07738, CDMX, México

Abstract: We employ an expression for the Laplace transform, based in integration by differentiation, to deduce the Post-Widder's formula for the inversion of this transform.

Key words: Inversion of the Laplace transform • Post-Widder's formula

INTRODUCTION

If we know the Laplace transform [1]:

$$F(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt, \quad (1)$$

the aim is to determine $f(t)$; in [2] was obtained the following formula to do the integration in (1) via differentiation:

$$F(s) = f\left(-\frac{d}{ds}\right) \frac{1}{s}. \quad (2)$$

Here we show that (2) leads to the Post-Widder's expression [3-6] for the Laplace inverse transform.

Inversion of the Laplace Transform: In (2) we apply the operator $\frac{d^m}{ds^m}$ and $f(t)$ is written in its Taylor's series with respect to $t = b$.

$$F^{(m)}(s) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} f^{(n)}(b) \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} b^{n-k} \left(\frac{d}{ds}\right)^{m+k} \frac{1}{s},$$

but $\left(\frac{d}{ds}\right)^{m+k} \frac{1}{s} = \frac{(-1)^{m+k} (m+k)!}{s^{m+k+1}}$ and we take $b = t$ with $s = \frac{m}{t}$, hence:

$$F^{(m)}\left(\frac{m}{t}\right) = \frac{(-1)^m t^{m+1}}{m^{m+1}} m! \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} f^{(n)}(t) \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \frac{(-1)^k (m+k)!}{m! m^k},$$

$$= (-1)^m \left(\frac{t}{m}\right)^{m+1} m! \left[f(t) + t f^{(1)}(t) \frac{1}{m} + \frac{t^2}{2!} f^{(2)}(t) \frac{1}{m} \left(1 + \frac{2}{m}\right) + \frac{t^3}{3!} f^{(3)}(t) \frac{1}{m^2} \left(5 + \frac{6}{m}\right) + \dots \right],$$

therefore:

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(-1)^m}{m!} \left(\frac{m}{t}\right)^{m+1} F^{(m)}\left(\frac{m}{t}\right) = f(t), \quad (3)$$

which coincides with the celebrated formula of Post-Widder [3-6] for the inversion of the Laplace transform.

REFERENCES

1. Debnath, L. and D. Bhatta, 2007. Integral transforms and their applications, CRC Press, FI-USA.
2. Kempf, A., D.M. Jackson and A.H. Morales, 2015. How to (path-) integrate by differentiating, J. Phys: Conf. Series, 626: 012015.
3. Post, E., 1930. Generalized differentiation, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., 32(4): 723-781.
4. Widder, D.V., 1934. The inversion of the Laplace integral and the related moment problem, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., 36(1): 107-200.
5. Widder, D.V., 1946. The Laplace transform, Princeton University Press, New Jersey.
6. Hernández-Galeana, A., J. López-Bonilla, B. Man Tuladhar and J. Rivera-Rebolledo, 2013. On the inverse Laplace transform, Kathmandu Univ. J. Sci. Eng. & Tech., 9(1): 161-164.