

Laplace Transforms and Transfer Functions

1. Determine the Laplace Transform of the following equations:

a) $f(t) = 3\exp(-4t)$

b) $f(t) = 5\exp(2t)$

c) $f(t) = 2\exp(-4(t + 2))$

d) $f(t) = 2t * \exp(-t) + 4\sin(5t)$

e) $f(t) = 4 + 4t + 4t^2$

f) $f(t) = 2\exp(-3t) * \cos(7t)$

[11 marks]

2. Determine the inverse Laplace Transform of the following equations:

$$\text{a) } F(s) = \frac{1}{2s+1}$$

$$\text{b) } F(s) = \frac{1}{s^2} - \frac{4}{s-2} + \frac{1}{s^2+1}$$

$$\text{c) } F(s) = \frac{3}{s(s+2)}$$

$$\text{d) } F(s) = \frac{4}{(s+2)^2} + \frac{4}{s} + \frac{s}{s^2+2}$$

$$\text{e) } F(s) = 10$$

$$\text{f) } F(s) = \frac{1}{(s+3)} e^{-2s}$$

[12 marks]

3) Determine the transfer functions for the following ordinary differential equations:

$$\text{a) } 4 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 2y(t) = x(t) - 3$$

$$\text{b) } 5 \frac{d^2y(t)}{dt^2} + 2 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + y(t) = 7x(t) + 4$$

$$\text{c) } 3 \frac{d^2y(t)}{dt^2} + 8 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 2y(t) = x(t) - 10$$

$$\text{d) } 4 \frac{d^3y(t)}{dt^3} + 3 \frac{d^2y(t)}{dt^2} + 6 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + y(t) = 6 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + x(t) - 6$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{e) } \frac{d^4y(t)}{dt^4} - 3 \frac{d^3y(t)}{dt^3} + 2 \frac{d^2y(t)}{dt^2} - 3 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 6y(t) \\ = \frac{d^2x(t)}{dt^2} - 4 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + 2x(t) + 5 \end{aligned}$$

[7 marks]

- 4) Determine the roots of the following transfer functions. Having determined the value of the roots, state whether their expected response to a step change in the input is stable or unstable, monotonic or oscillatory.

a) $G(s) = \frac{2}{3s+2}$

b) $G(s) = \frac{5}{1-2s}$

c) $G(s) = \frac{5}{(s+2)(s+3)}$

d) $G(s) = \frac{2}{s}$

e) $G(s) = \frac{3}{(4s^2+4s+2)}$

f) $G(s) = \frac{6}{(s^2-4)}$

[13 marks]

5) Rewrite the following transfer functions in the form $\frac{K}{\tau^2 s^2 + 2\zeta\tau s + 1}$.

Determine the values of τ and ζ . State what kind of response you expect from a step change in the input - overdamped, critically damped, underdamped, undamped sustained oscillations, unstable growing oscillations or runaway.

a) $G(s) = \frac{5}{(s+2)(s+3)}$

b) $G(s) = \frac{3}{(4s^2 - 3s + 2)}$

c) $G(s) = \frac{7}{(s^2 + 2s + 1)}$

d) $G(s) = \frac{8}{(3s^2 + 2s + 1)}$

e) $G(s) = \frac{5}{(s^2 + 4)}$

[15 marks]

6) Figure 1 shows the change in the temperature of water coming out of a boiler following a step change in the water pressure of 0.5 bar at $t = 0$.

a) Name the type of oscillation that can be seen.

[2 marks]

b) See section 2.7 in the course notes of topic 3. Determine:

- i. the gain K (in $^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{bar}$)
- ii. the dead time Δt (in min)
- iii. the period of oscillation T (in min)
- iv. the frequency ω (in rad/min)
- v. the decay ratio C/B (-)
- vi. the overshoot B/A (-)
- vii. the rise time (in min)
- viii. the settling time (in min)

[8 marks]

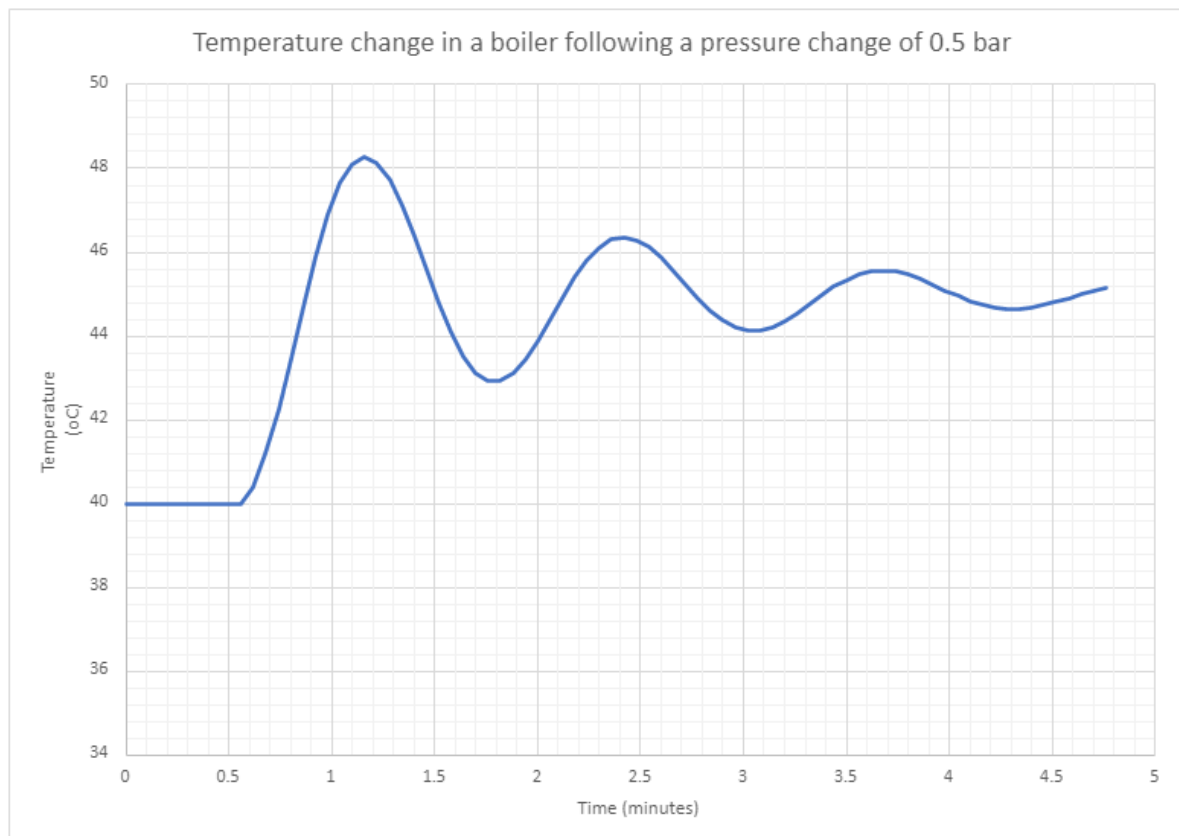


Figure 1.

- 7) A system described by a step transfer function $G(t) = Ku(t)$ is subjected to a step change at is input $X(t) = \Delta xu(t)$. Show that the output response $Y(t)$ can be described by a ramp function.

[6 marks]

End of coursework

Process Modelling Data Sheet

The Laplace transforms of an equation $f(t)$ is defined as:

$$\lambda[f(t)] = F(s) = \int_0^{\infty} f(t) \exp(-st) dt$$

Table 1. Laplace transform of common functions:

Function $f(t)$	Laplace transform $F(s) = \lambda[f(t)]$
Dirac function $\delta(t)$	1
Unit step $u(t)$	$\frac{1}{s}$
a	$\frac{a}{s}$
t	$\frac{1}{s^2}$
t^n	$\frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$
$\exp(-at)$	$\frac{1}{s+a}$
$t \exp(-at)$	$\frac{1}{(s+a)^2}$
$t^n \exp(-at)$	$\frac{n!}{(s+a)^{n+1}}$
$\sin(\omega t)$	$\frac{\omega}{s^2 + \omega^2}$
$\cos(\omega t)$	$\frac{s}{s^2 + \omega^2}$
$\exp(-at) \sin(\omega t)$	$\frac{\omega}{(s+a)^2 + \omega^2}$
$\exp(-at) \cos(\omega t)$	$\frac{s+a}{(s+a)^2 + \omega^2}$

Table 2. First order system

Transfer function	$Y(s) = \left[\frac{K}{\tau s + 1} \right] X(s)$
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Table 3. Second order system

Transfer function	$Y(s) = \left[\frac{K}{\tau^2 s^2 + 2\zeta\tau s + 1} \right] X(s)$
Roots	$r_1 = \frac{-\zeta - \sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1}}{\tau};$ $r_2 = \frac{-\zeta + \sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1}}{\tau}$

Damping ratio value	Response
$\zeta \geq 1$	Overdamped= monotonic and stable
$\zeta = 1$	Critically damped; monotonic and stable
$0 \leq \zeta < 1$	Underdamped=oscillatory and stable
$\zeta = 0$	Undamped=sustained oscillations
$-1 \leq \zeta < 0$	Unstable; growing oscillations
$\zeta < -1$	Runaway; monotonic unstable

Underdamped step response	
$r_1 = \rho + i\omega; r_2 = \rho - i\omega$	
Period of oscillation	$T = 2\pi / \omega$
Rise time	$= T/4$
Decay ratio	$= \exp(-(\xi / \tau)T)$
Overshoot	$= \exp(-(\xi / \tau)T / 2)$
Settling time	$= 5\tau / \xi$

