

PARTIAL FRACTION EXPANSION

Given a ratio of polynomials, $F(s) = \frac{N(s)}{D(s)}$ with degree of $N(s) <$ degree of $D(s)$, find its partial fraction expansion.

Case 1: Roots of the Denominator $D(s)$ are Real and Distinct

$$\begin{aligned} F(s) &= \frac{N(s)}{D(s)} = \frac{N(s)}{(s + p_1)(s + p_2)\cdots(s + p_m)\cdots(s + p_n)} \\ &= \frac{K_1}{(s + p_1)} + \frac{K_2}{(s + p_2)} + \cdots + \frac{K_m}{(s + p_m)} + \cdots + \frac{K_n}{(s + p_n)} \\ K_m &= \frac{N(s)(s + p_m)}{(s + p_1)(s + p_2)\cdots(s + p_m)\cdots(s + p_n)} \end{aligned}$$

Case 2: Roots of the Denominator $D(s)$ are Real and repeated

$$\begin{aligned} F(s) &= \frac{N(s)}{D(s)} = \frac{N(s)}{(s + p_1)^r(s + p_2)\cdots(s + p_n)} \\ &= \frac{K_{11}}{(s + p_1)^r} + \frac{K_{21}}{(s + p_1)^{r-1}} + \cdots + \frac{K_{rl}}{(s + p_1)} + \frac{K_2}{(s + p_2)} + \cdots + \frac{K_n}{(s + p_n)} \\ K_{i1} &= \frac{1}{(i-1)!} \frac{d^{i-1}}{ds^{i-1}} \frac{N(s)(s + p_1)^r}{(s + p_1)^r(s + p_2)\cdots(s + p_n)} , \quad i = 1, \dots, r \end{aligned}$$

K_2, \dots, K_n , are found as before.

Case 3: Roots of the Denominator $D(s)$ are Complex or Imaginary

$$F(s) = \frac{N(s)}{D(s)} = \frac{N(s)}{(s + p_1)(s^2 + cs + d)}$$

$$= \frac{K_1}{(s + p_1)} + \frac{K_2 s + K_3}{(s^2 + cs + d)}$$

Find K_1 as before, then equate the numerator polynomials on either side of the equality:

$$N(s) = K_1(s^2 + cs + d) + (K_2 s + K_3)(s + p_1)$$

Next determine K_2 and K_3 by equating coefficients of like terms on either side of the equation. To find the inverse transform note that:

$$\frac{K_2 s + K_3}{(s^2 + cs + d)} = \frac{K_2 s + K_3}{s + \frac{c}{2} + \sqrt{d - \frac{c^2}{4}}^2} = \frac{K_2 s + K_3}{[(s + a)^2 + b^2]}$$

$$\text{where } a = \frac{c}{2}, \text{ and } b = \sqrt{d - \frac{c^2}{4}} \text{ or } (a^2 + b^2) = d$$

Now

$$\frac{K_2 s + K_3}{[(s + a)^2 + b^2]} = K_2 \frac{(s + a)}{[(s + a)^2 + b^2]} + \frac{(K_3 - K_2 a)}{b} \frac{b}{[(s + a)^2 + b^2]}$$

And

$$L^{-1} \left[\frac{K_2 s + K_3}{[(s + a)^2 + b^2]} \right] = K_2 e^{-at} \cos(bt) + \frac{(K_3 - K_2 a)}{b} e^{-at} \sin(bt)$$