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Inversion and Approximation of Laplace Transforms

Mission Planning and Analysis Division

April 1980



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center
Houston, Texas

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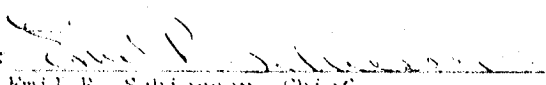
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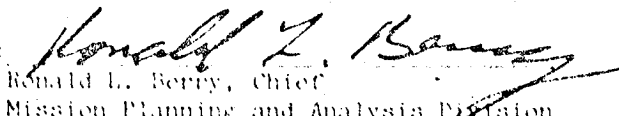
SHUTTLE PROGRAM

INVERSION AND APPROXIMATION OF LAPLACE TRANSFORMS

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Included in this report is a novel method of inverting Laplace transforms by using a new set of orthonormal functions. As a byproduct of the inversion, it is seen how to approximate very complicated Laplace transforms by a transform with a series of simple poles along the left-half plane real axis. The inversion and approximation process is simple enough to be put on a programmable hand calculator.

2.0 INVERSION AND APPROXIMATION

Let $f(s)$ be a Laplace transform and $F(t)$ its exact inverse. $NF(t)$ will be the approximate inverse, given by

$$NF(t) = A_1 L_1(st) + A_2 L_2(st) + \dots + A_N L_N(st) \quad (1)$$

where the $L_n(st)$ are the new orthonormal functions (described below and in the appendix). The A_n values are the Fourier coefficients and are given by

$$A_n(s) = \int_0^{\infty} F(t) L_n(st) dt \quad (2)$$

s is a free parameter chosen to produce the best approximation, as shown below.

The integral square approximation error is given by

$$E(s) = \int_0^{\infty} (NF(t) - F(t))^2 dt = \int_0^{\infty} F(t)^2 dt - \sum_{n=1}^N A_n^2(s) \geq 0 \quad (3)$$

To minimize the integral square error, s is chosen such that

$$C = \sum_{n=1}^N A_n^2(s) \text{ is maximum} \quad (4)$$

The new orthonormal functions are shown below.

$$L_n = n a_1 e^{-st} + n a_2 e^{-2st} + n a_3 e^{-3st} + \dots + n a_n e^{-nst} \quad (5)$$

The values of $n a_i$ are chosen such that

$$\int_0^{\infty} L_n L_m dt = 0 \quad \text{for } n \neq m$$

$$= 1 \quad \text{for } n = m \quad (6)$$

The first 10 orthonormal functions are listed below.

$$L_1 = \sqrt{2} s e^{-st} \quad s > 0$$

$$L_2 = \sqrt{4} s (-2e^{-st} + 3e^{-2st})$$

$$L_3 = \sqrt{6} s (3e^{-st} - 12e^{-2st} + 10e^{-3st})$$

$$L_4 = \sqrt{8} s (-4e^{-st} + 30e^{-2st} - 60e^{-3st} + 35e^{-4st})$$

$$L_5 = \sqrt{10} s (6e^{-st} - 60e^{-2st} + 210e^{-3st} - 280e^{-4st} + 126e^{-5st})$$

$$L_6 = \sqrt{12} s (-6e^{-st} + 105e^{-2st} - 560e^{-3st} + 1260e^{-4st} - 1260e^{-5st} + 462e^{-6st})$$

$$L_7 = \sqrt{14} s (7e^{-st} - 168e^{-2st} + 1260e^{-3st} - 4200e^{-4st} + 6930e^{-5st} - 5544e^{-6st} + 1716e^{-7st})$$

$$L_8 = \sqrt{16} s (-8e^{-st} + 252e^{-2st} - 2520e^{-3st} + 11550e^{-4st} - 27720e^{-5st} + 36036e^{-6st} - 24024e^{-7st} + 6435e^{-8st})$$

$$L_9 = \sqrt{18} s (9e^{-st} - 360e^{-2st} + 4620e^{-3st} - 27720e^{-4st} + 90090e^{-5st} - 168168e^{-6st} + 182180e^{-7st} - 102960e^{-8st} + 24310e^{-9st})$$

$$L_{10} = \sqrt{20s}(-10e^{-st} + 495e^{-2st} - 7920e^{-3st} + 60060e^{-4st} - 252252e^{-5st} \\ + 630630e^{-6st} - 960960e^{-7st} + 875160e^{-8st} - 437580e^{-9st} \\ + 92378e^{-10st})$$

Figure 1 shows plots of the first four, L_n .

The values of the na_i coefficients are given by

$$na_i = (-1)^{n+i} \sqrt{2sn} \frac{(n+i-1)!}{i!(i-1)!(n-1)!} \quad (7)$$

or

$$na_i = (-1)^{n+i} \sqrt{2sn} \frac{n}{i!(i-1)!} \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} (n^2 - j^2) \quad (8)$$

where $na_1 = (-1)^{n+1} \sqrt{2ns} n$ (9)

The recursion relationship for the na_i is given by

$$na_1 = (-1)^{n+1} \sqrt{2ns} n \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N \quad (10)$$

$$na_i = - \frac{n^2 - (i-1)^2}{i(i-1)} na_{i-1} \quad i = 2, 3, \dots, n \quad (11)$$

$$n = 2, 3, \dots, N$$

The recursion relationship for the L_n is given by

$$U_n = 2 \frac{2n-1}{\sqrt{n(n-1)}} \quad n = 2, 3, \dots, N \quad (12)$$

$$V_n = \frac{n(n-1)}{2n-i} \quad n = 2, 3, \dots, N \quad (13)$$

$$L_1 = \sqrt{2s} e^{-st} \quad (14)$$

$$L_2 = \sqrt{s} e^{-st}(6e^{-st} - 4) \quad (15)$$

$$L_n = U_n((e^{-st} - V_n + V_{n-1})L_{n-1} - L_{n-2}/U_{n-1}) \quad n = 3, 4, \dots, N \quad (16)$$

This is the relationship that should be used to compute the L_n in a computer program. It is simple, fast, and accurate.

Equation 2 gave the Fourier coefficients in terms of $F(t)$. In terms of the Laplace transform, $f(s)$, they are given by

$$A_n = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i f(is) \quad (17)$$

Note that as n increases, so does the magnitude of the a_i , which has an oscillating sign. This can cause serious roundoff error problems in computing the A_n . It is speculated that the maximum value of $n = N$ be limited to approximately the number of significant decimal digits of accuracy used by a particular computer. One way to evaluate this problem for a particular computer is to set⁴

$$f(s) = \frac{1}{s+1}$$

Let $s = 1$ and compute the A_n . Theoretically

$$A_1 = 1/\sqrt{2}$$

$$A_n = 0 \quad \text{for } n > 1$$

⁴Also see theorem 15 in the appendix.

and

$$C = \sum_{n=1}^N A_n^2 = 0.5$$

Due to roundoff error, the theoretical values will not be achieved for N large.

Perhaps a better way of computing the A_n (which may be slightly less affected by roundoff error) is to use the algorithm shown below, which also computes C .

$C = 0$

DO c $n = 1, N$

$A_n = f(ns)$

IF (n.EQ.1) GOTO b

$\delta = 1$

DO a $i = 1, n - 1$

$$A_n = \frac{i(2n - i)}{(n + 1 - i)(n - i)} A_n - \delta f((n - i)s)$$

a $\delta = -\delta$

b $A_n = \sqrt{2ns} n A_n$

$C = C + A_n^2$

c PRINT C

Note that σ should be chosen such that C is maximum.

All the L_n approach zero as t approaches infinity. Therefore, the approximations work well only when $F(t) \rightarrow 0$ as t approaches infinity. This will be the case for stable system weighting functions - an important application. An example of what to do when $F(t)$ does not decay to zero is shown below. Let

$$g(s) = \frac{1 - e^{-2s}}{s^2}$$

Apply the final value theorem.

$$G(\infty) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} s g(s) = 2$$

So instead of inverting $g(s)$, invert

$$f(s) = g(s) - \frac{2}{s}$$

Now $F(t) \rightarrow 0$ as t approaches infinity and $G(t) = F(t) + 2$. Thus

$$L^{-1}G(t) = 2 + L^{-1}F(t)$$

3.0 EXAMPLES

As the first example, let

$$f(s) = \frac{s + 1}{(s + 1)^2 + \pi^2} \quad (18)$$

The exact inverse is

$$F(t) = e^{-t} \cos(\pi t) \quad (19)$$

Figures 2 through 9 show the values of

$$C = \sum_{n=1}^N A_n^2 \quad (20)$$

versus s for values of N from 1 to 14. The maximum value that C can obtain (neglecting roundoff errors) is 0.27300 since

$$\int_0^{\infty} F(t)^2 dt = 0.27300 \quad (21)$$

It is seen that each value of N has its own optimum value of s , and the choice of s can greatly influence the accuracy of the fit.

Figure 10 shows plots of $F(t)$, ${}_3F(t)$, and ${}_6F(t)$. For $N = 3$ the optimum value of s was $s = 2.2$. In this case

$$A_1 = 0.33378\ 95910$$

$$A_2 = 0.28719\ 57089$$

$$A_3 = -0.21481\ 58487$$

$${}_3F(t) = -3.345e^{-2.2t} + 11.921e^{-4.4t} - 7.805e^{-6.6t} \quad (22)$$

The approximate Laplace transform is thus seen to be

$${}_3f(s) = -\frac{3.345}{s + 2.2} + \frac{11.921}{s + 4.4} - \frac{7.805}{s + 6.6} \quad (23)$$

For $N = 6$ the optimum value of $s = 0.9$ and

$$A_1 = 0.18910\ 92215$$

$$A_2 = 0.36507\ 51747$$

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$$A_3 = 0.22324\ 71254$$

$$A_4 = -0.14742\ 23756$$

$$A_5 = -0.11047\ 63746$$

$$A_6 = 0.11492\ 41046$$

$$6F(t) = -1.916e^{-0.9t} + 43.527e^{-1.8t} - 252.178e^{-2.7t}$$

$$+ 554.831e^{-3.6t} - 517.636e^{-4.5t} + 174.488e^{-5.4t}$$

(24)

From figure 8 it is seen that $N = 10$ and $s = 0.65$ will give an excellent fit. For this case

$$A_1 = 0.14940\ 23073$$

$$A_2 = 0.31134\ 50651$$

$$A_3 = 0.31771\ 10153$$

$$A_4 = -0.03684\ 84058$$

$$A_5 = -0.18661\ 71768$$

$$A_6 = -0.03590\ 26947$$

$$A_7 = 0.10304\ 31558$$

$$A_8 = -0.02596\ 24761$$

$$A_9 = -0.03656\ 09018$$

$$A_{10} = 0.04125\ 86606$$

and

$$10F(t) = -0.822e^{-0.65t} + 59.853e^{-1.3t} - 1195.825e^{-1.95t}$$

$$+ 10\ 138.374e^{-2.6t} - 44\ 250.068e^{-3.25t} + 110\ 050.528e^{-3.9t}$$

$$- 169\ 040.633e^{-4.55t} + 142\ 526.134e^{-5.2t}$$

$$- 68\ 134.644e^{-5.85t} + 13\ 742.171e^{-6.5t}$$

(25)

For the next example

$$f(s) = \ln\left(\frac{s+2}{s+1}\right) - \frac{1}{s+2}$$

(26)

The exact inverse is

$$F(t) = \frac{1}{t}(e^{-t} - e^{-2t}) - e^{-2t} \quad (27)$$

Figure 11 shows plots of $C = \sum_{n=1}^N A_n^2$ versus s for $N = 4, 8,$ and 12 . It is clear that for $s = 0.5$, only four terms are needed to give an excellent fit. In this case

$${}_4F(t) = -0.00261e^{-0.5t} + 0.17291e^{-t} + 0.66316e^{-1.5t} - 0.83353e^{-2t} \quad (28)$$

Figure 11 shows plots of $F(t)$ and ${}_4F(t)$. There is no visible difference between $F(t)$ and ${}_4F(t)$.

Let

$$g(s) = \ln\left(\frac{s+2}{s+1}\right) \quad (29)$$

Then from equations 26 and 28, $g(s)$ is approximated by

$${}_4g(s) = -\frac{0.00261}{s+0.5} + \frac{0.17292}{s+1} + \frac{0.66316}{s+1.5} + \frac{0.16647}{s+2} \quad (30)$$

For $s > 0$, ${}_4g(s)$ is an excellent approximation of $g(s)$, as seen below.

s	$g(s)$	${}_4g(s)$
0	0.69315	0.69304
0.1	.64663	.64660
1	.40547	.40547
2	.28768	.28769
5	.15415	.15415
10	.08701	.08701

Note

$${}_4G(t) = -0.00261e^{-0.5t} + 0.17292e^{-t} + 0.66316e^{-1.5t} + 0.16647e^{-2t} \quad (31)$$

where

$$G(t) = \frac{1}{t}(e^{-t} - e^{-2t}) \quad (32)$$

Note $G(0) = 1$ and ${}_4G(0) = 0.99994$.

For the final example

$$f(s) = e^{-\sqrt{s}} \quad (33)$$

which has an exact inverse of

$$F(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi t^3}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{4t}\right) \quad (34)$$

Figure 13 shows plots of $C = \sum_{n=1}^N \Lambda_n^2$ versus s for values of $N = 6, 10,$ and 14 .

For $N = 6$ the optimum value of $s = 0.8$, and

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$$\begin{aligned} {}_6F(t) = & 1.4551e^{-0.8t} - 15.6761e^{-1.6t} + 83.8937e^{-2.4t} \\ & - 204.8879e^{-3.2t} + 232.5787e^{-4t} - 97.7713e^{-4.8t} \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

As seen from figure 14, ${}_6F(t)$ is a very good approximation of $F(t)$, which is remarkable since $F(t)$ is a complicated function of time that is very dissimilar to a power series in $e^{-0.8t}$.

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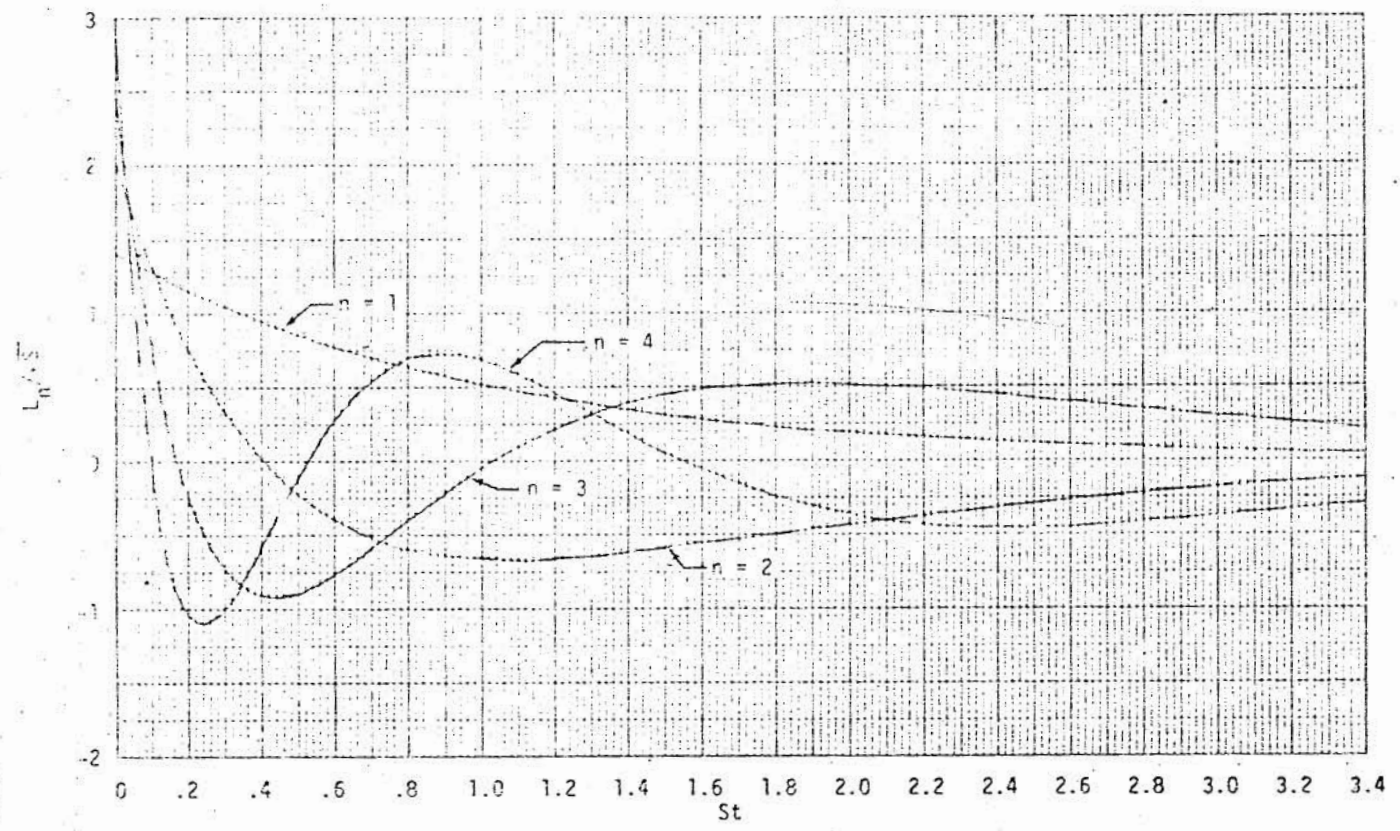


Figure 1.- Plot of first four orthonormal functions.

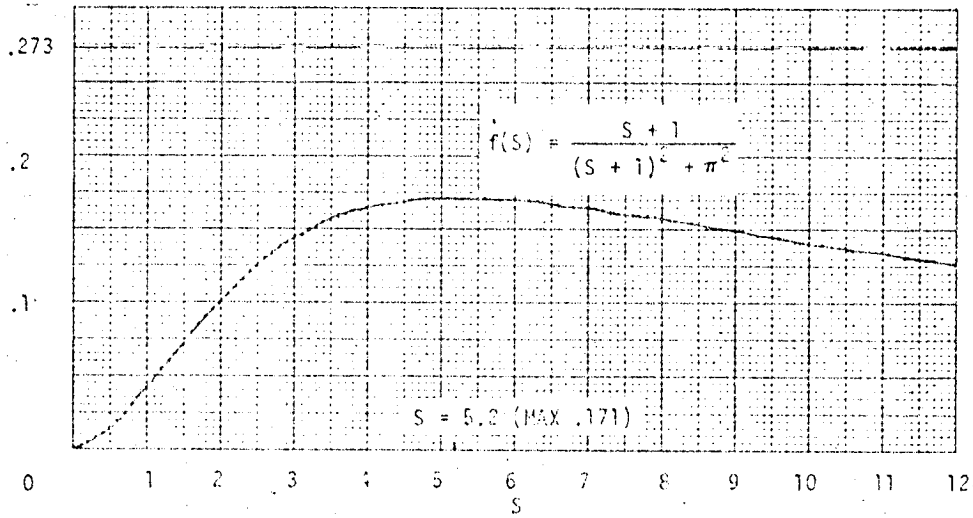


Figure 2. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$ for $F(t) = e^{-t} \cos(\pi t)$

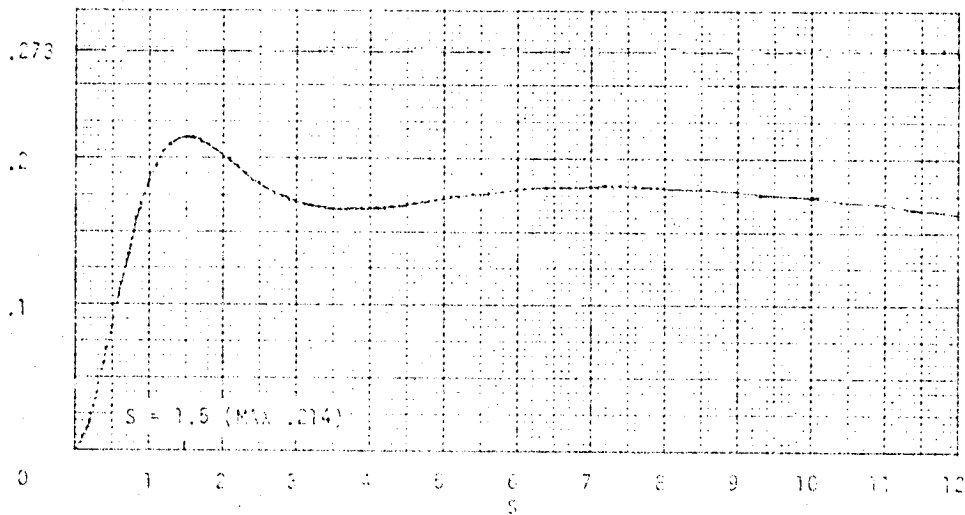


Figure 3. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2}$ for $F(t) = t^2 \cos(\pi t)$

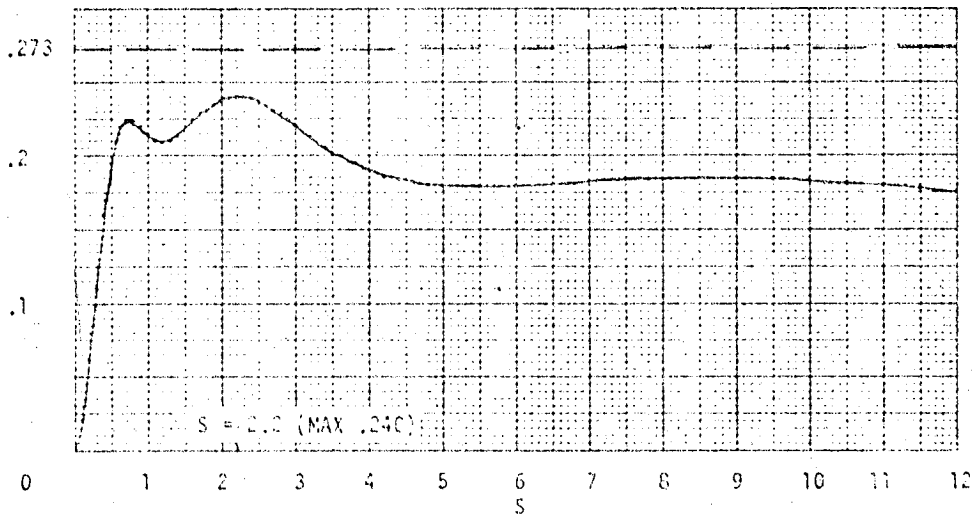


Figure 4.- $\sum_{n=1}^3 A_n^2$ for $F(t) = e^{-t} \cos(\pi t)$.

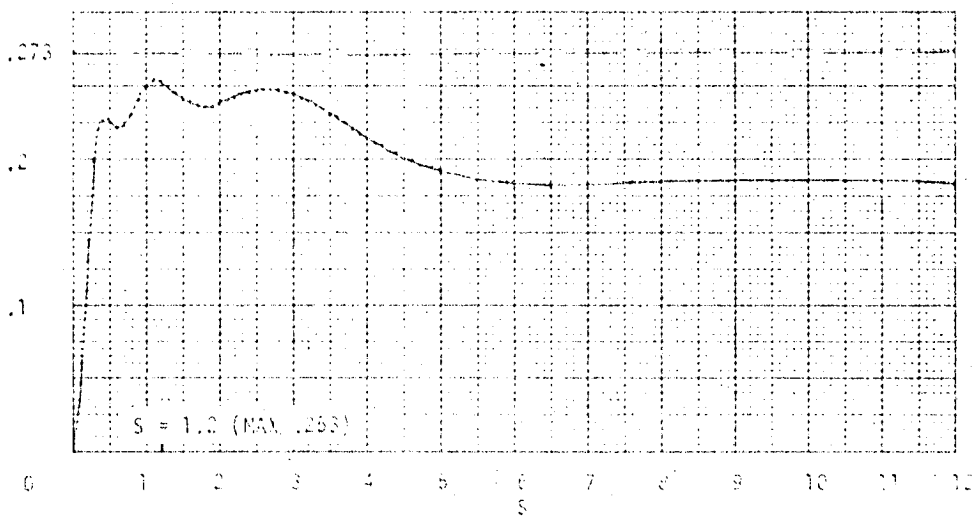


Figure 5.- $\sum_{n=1}^3 A_n^2$ for $F(t) = e^{-t} \cos(\pi t)$.

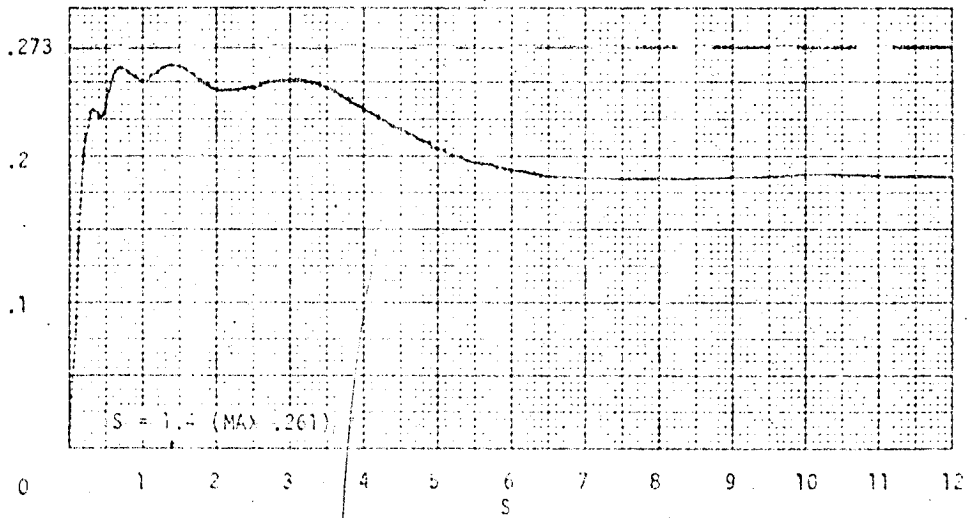


Figure 6.- $\sum_{n=1}^S \frac{1}{n^2}$ for $f(t) = e^{-t} \cos(\pi t)$.

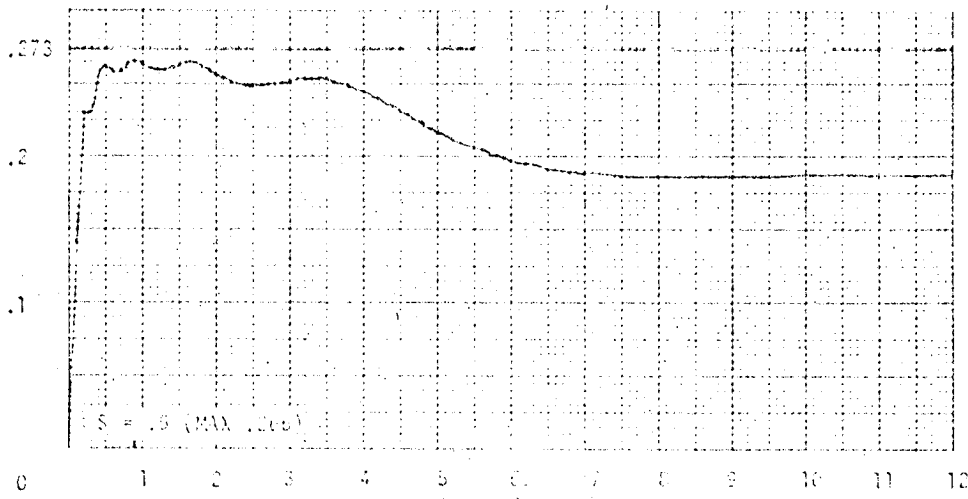


Figure 7.- $\sum_{n=1}^S \frac{1}{n^2}$ for $f(t) = e^{-t} \cos(\pi t)$.

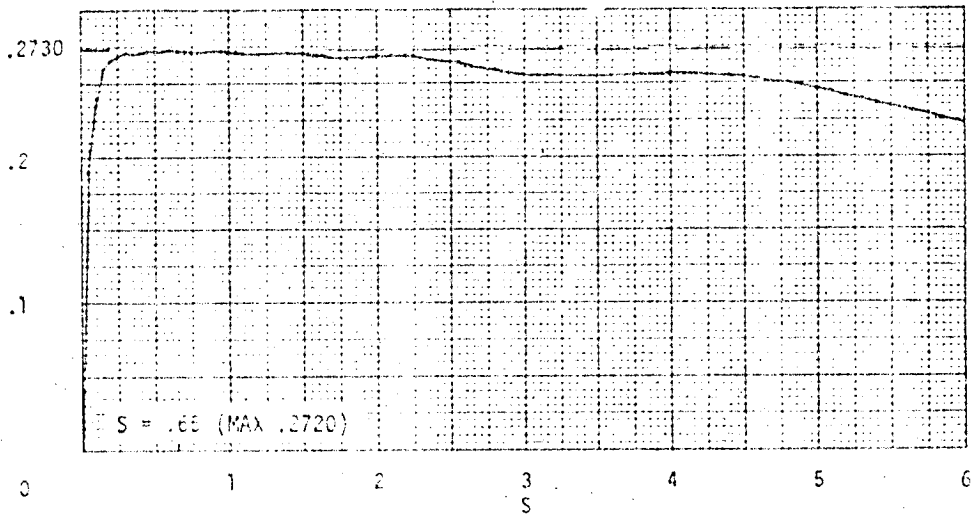


Figure 5.- $\sum_{n=1}^{10} K_n^2$ for $F(t) = e^{-t} \cos(mt)$.

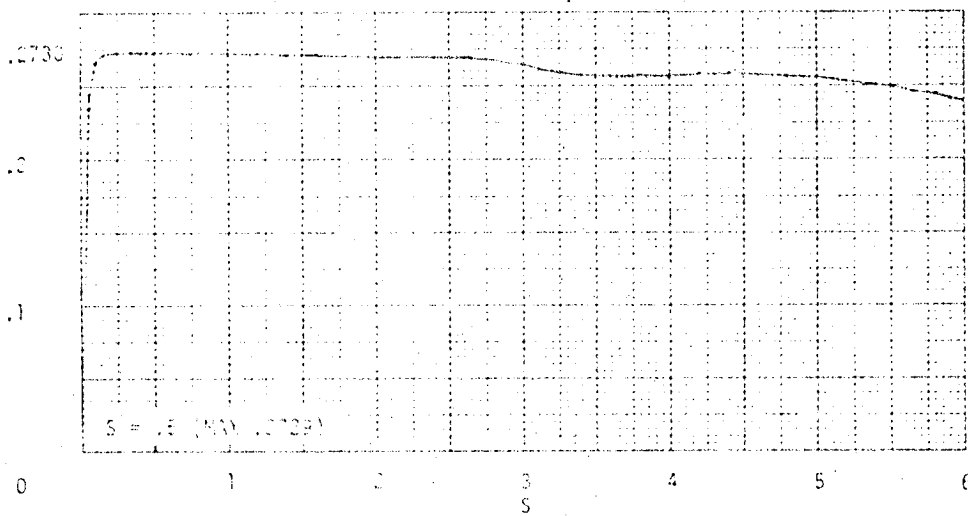


Figure 6.- $\sum_{n=1}^{10} K_n^2$ for $F(t) = e^{-t} \cos(mt)$.

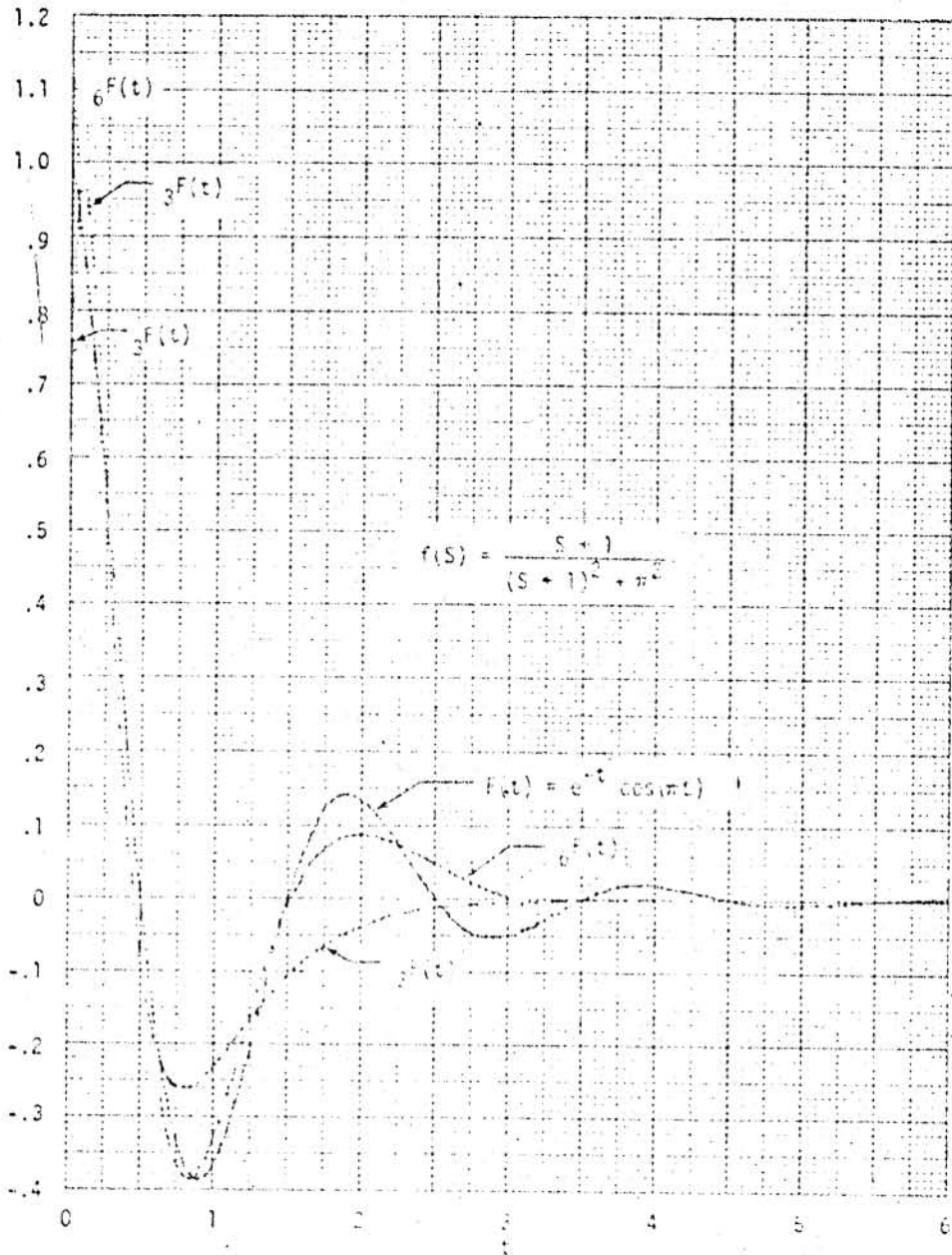


Figure 10 - Approximations of $f(t) = e^{-t} \cos(mt)$.

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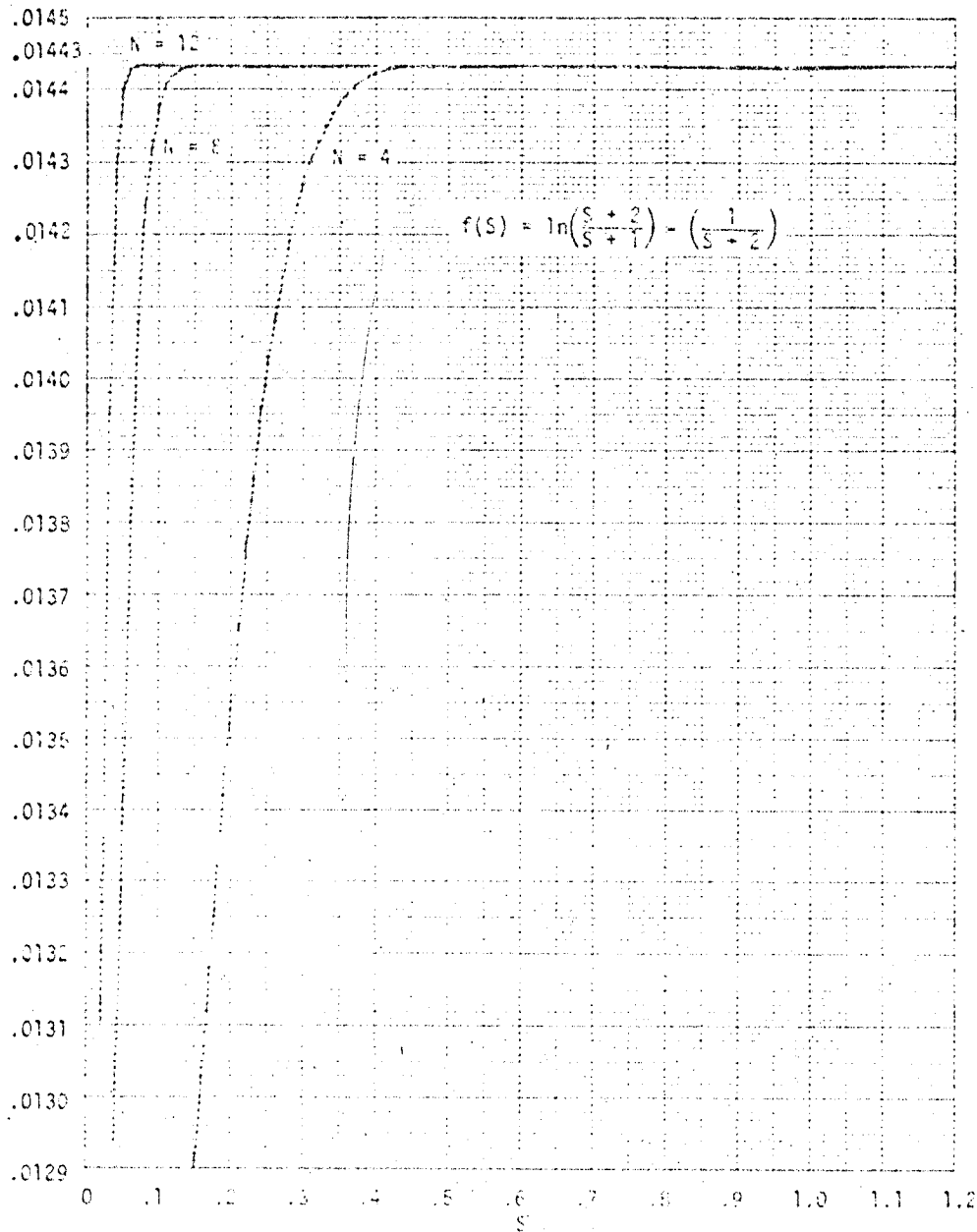


Figure 11. - $\sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{k^2}$ for $f(s) = \ln\left(\frac{s+2}{s+1}\right) - \frac{1}{s+2}$.

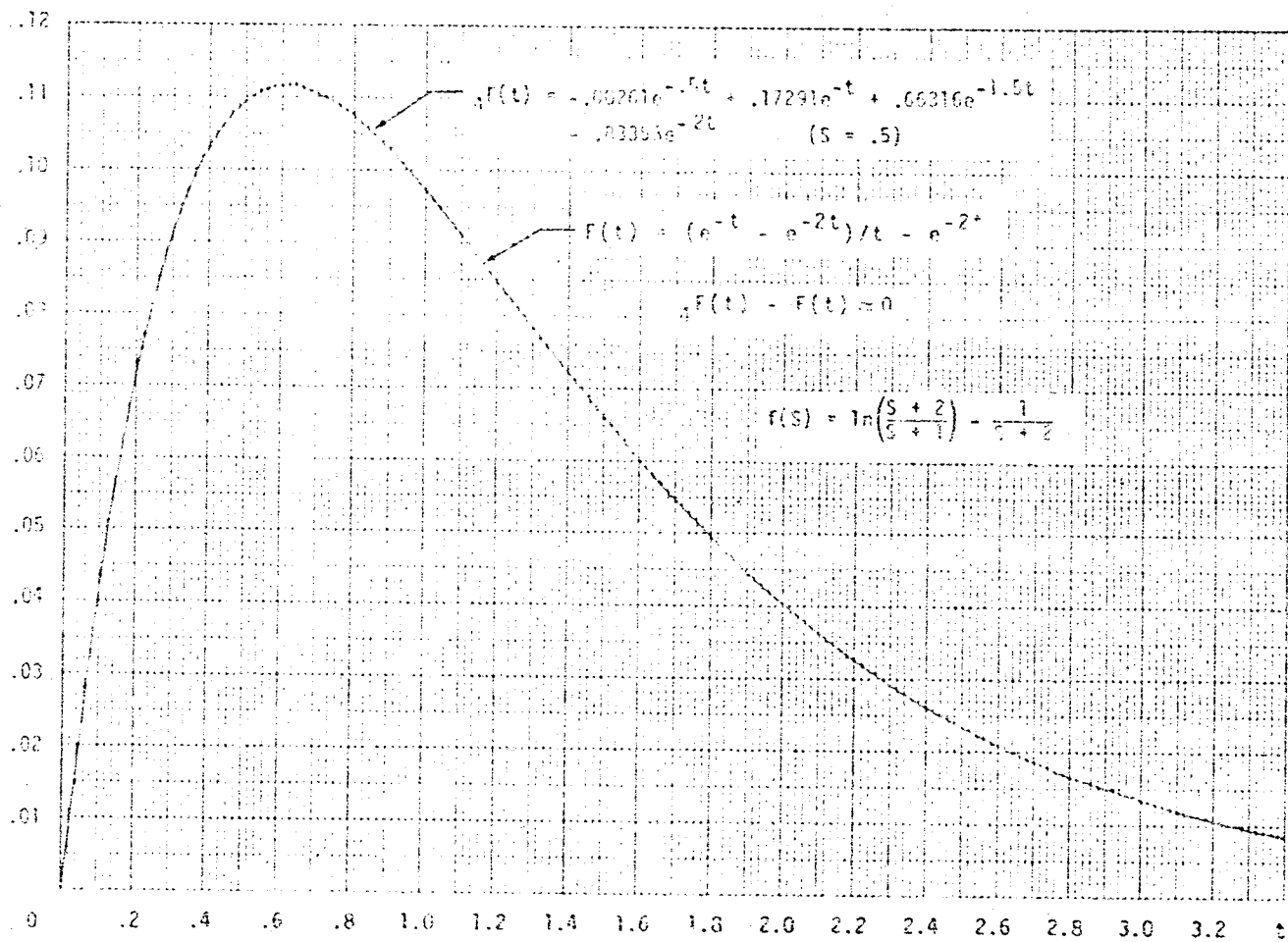


Figure 12.- Approximation of $F(t) = \frac{1}{t}(e^{-t} - e^{-2t}) - e^{-2t}$.

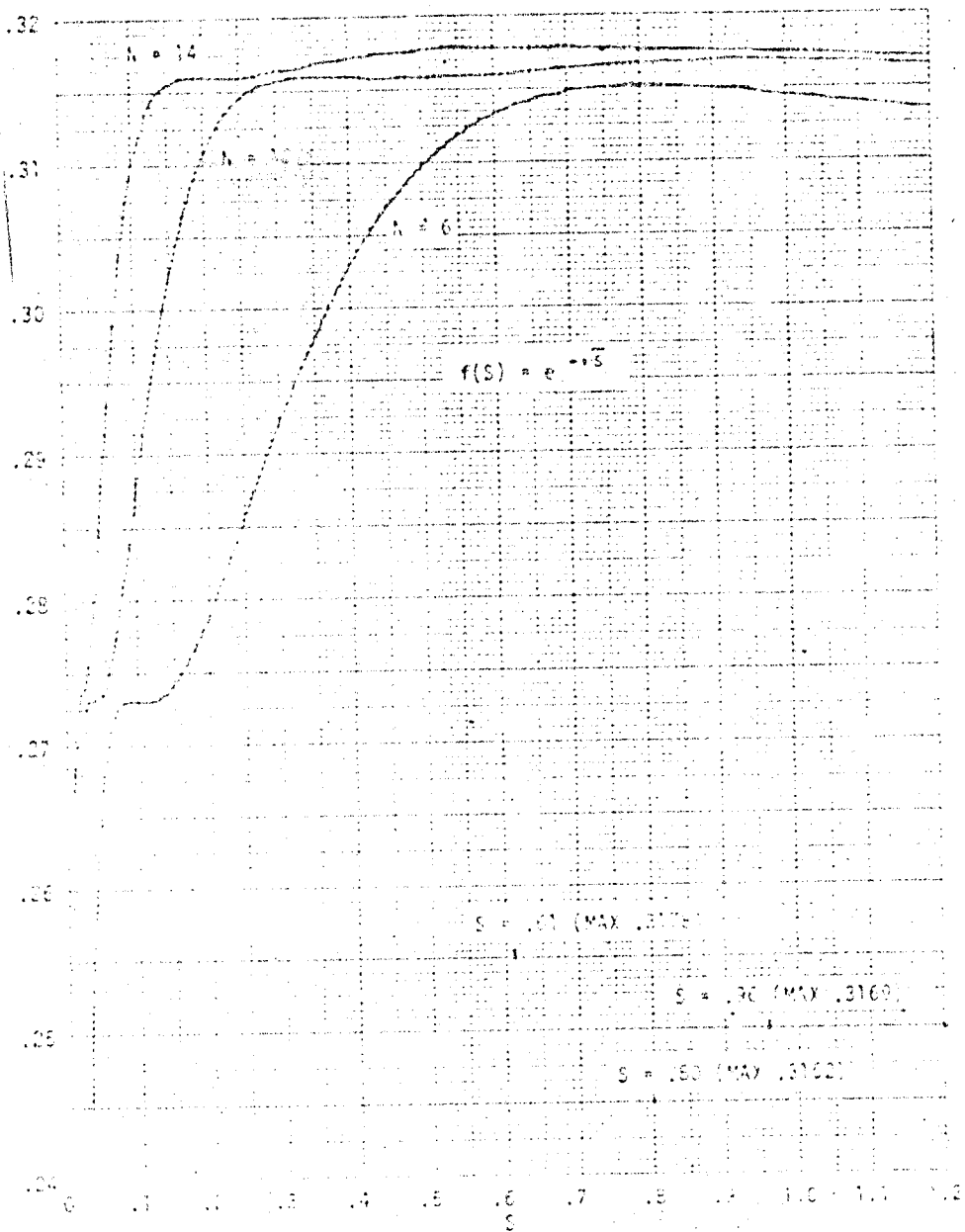


Figure 13. - $\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k!}$ for $f(s) = \frac{1}{e^s}$ over $0 \leq s \leq 1$

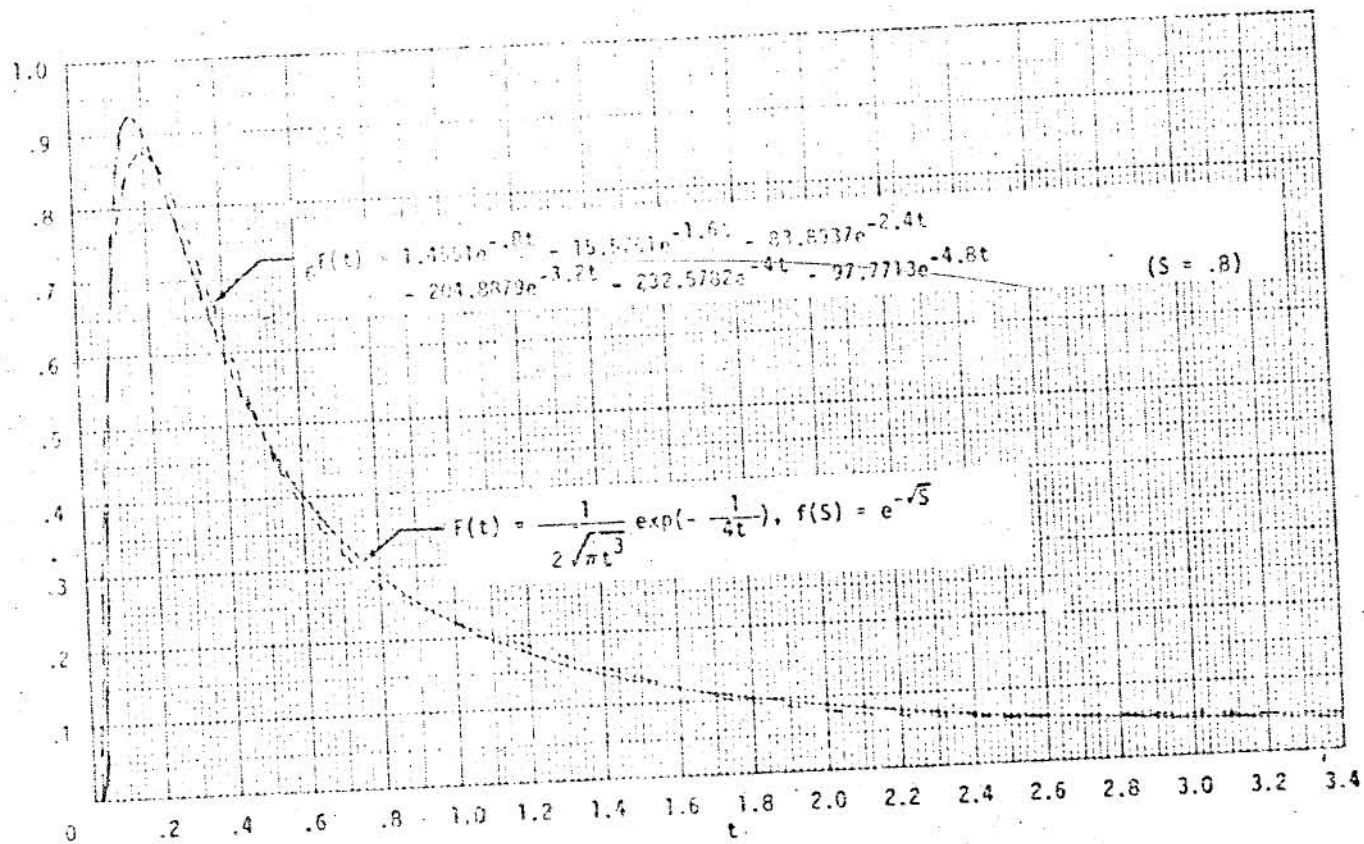


Figure 14.- Approximation of $f(t) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi t^3}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{4t}\right)$.

APPENDIX

THE L_n FUNCTIONS AND PROPERTIES

For brevity, the theorems and lemmas presented here will be shown without proof.

Definition 1:

The scalar product of $f(t)$ and $g(t)$ will be defined by

$$(f, g) = \int_0^{\infty} f(t)g(t)dt \quad (1)$$

Definition 2:

Define $L_n(st)$ by

$$L_n(st) = \sum_{i=1}^n n_i a_i e^{-i st} \quad (2)$$

where

$$n_i = (-1)^{i+1} \sqrt{\frac{n!}{i!(n-i)!}} \frac{(n+i-1)!}{i!(i-1)!(n-1)!} \quad (3)$$

Alternately

$$n_i = (-1)^{i+1} \sqrt{\frac{n!}{i!(n-i)!}} \frac{n!}{i!(i-1)!} \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} (n^2 - j^2) \quad (4)$$

where

$$n_i = (-1)^{i+1} \sqrt{\frac{n!}{i!(n-i)!}} n \quad (5)$$

Lemma 1:

For $n > 1$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{n^{2i}}{x+i} = \sqrt{2sn} \frac{(x-1)(x-2)\cdots(x-(n-1))}{(x+1)(x+2)\cdots(x+(n-1))(x+n)} \quad (6)$$

Corollary A:

$$\int_0^{\infty} L_n(st) dt = (-1)^{n+1} \frac{2}{\sqrt{2ns}} \quad (7)$$

or

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{n^{2i}}{i} = (-1)^{n+1} \sqrt{2sn} \frac{1}{n} \quad (8)$$

Corollary E:

$$L_n(0) = \sqrt{2ns} \quad (9)$$

or

$$\sum_{i=1}^n n^{2i} = \sqrt{2ns} \quad (10)$$

Theorem 1:

The system of functions $L_n(st)$ are orthonormal. That is

$$\begin{aligned} (L_n, L_m) &= 0 \quad \text{for } n \neq m \\ &= 1 \quad \text{for } n = m \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Definition 4:

The generating function $g(z, t)$ is defined as

$$g(z, t) = 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{4z}{(1-z)^2} e^{-st}}} = g(1/z, t) \quad (12)$$

Theorem 2:

Expansion of $g(z, t)$ into Maclaurin's series gives

$$g(z, t) = 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{\sqrt{2ns}} z^n L_n(st) \quad z^2 \leq 1 \quad (13)$$

$$g(z, t) = 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{\sqrt{2ns}} \frac{1}{z^n} L_n(st) \quad z^2 \geq 1 \quad (14)$$

Theorem 3:

The difference equation satisfied by $L_n(st)$ is

$$L_n = 2 \frac{2n-1}{\sqrt{n(n-1)}} \left\{ \left[e^{-st} - \frac{n(n-1)}{2n-1} + \frac{(n-1)(n-2)}{2n-3} \right] L_{n-1} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\sqrt{(n-1)(n-2)}}{2n-3} L_{n-2} \right\} \quad (15)$$

Theorem 4:

The differential equation satisfied by L_n is

$$(e^{st} - 1)\ddot{L}_n + se^{st}\dot{L}_n + s^2n^2L_n = 0 \quad (16)$$

Also of interest is

$$L_n = (-1)^{n+1} \frac{\sqrt{2ns}}{(n-1)!} \frac{d^{n-1}}{d(e^{-st})^{n-1}} [e^{-nst}(1 - e^{-st})^{n-1}] \quad (17)$$

Theorem 5:

$$e^{-nst} = \frac{2}{s} n!(n-1)! \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\sqrt{i}}{(n+i)!(n-i)!} L_i(st) \quad (18)$$

Definition 5:

Let

$$\int_0^{\infty} F(t)^2 dt$$

be finite.

Let ${}_N F(t)$ be an approximation of $F(t)$. The integral square error is defined by

$$E = \int_0^{\infty} (N_F(t) - F(t))^2 dt \quad (19)$$

Theorem 6:

The best approximation of $F(t)$ in the integral square error sense (E minimized) is given by

$$N_F(t) = \sum_{n=1}^N A_n L_n(st) \quad (20)$$

where

$$A_n(s) = \int_0^{\infty} F(t) L_n(st) dt \quad (21)$$

The integral square error is now given by

$$E = \int_0^{\infty} F(t)^2 dt - \sum_{n=1}^N A_n^2 \geq 0 \quad (22)$$

E is minimized by choosing s such that $\sum_{n=1}^N A_n^2$ is maximum.

Theorem 7, completeness theorem:

If

$$\int_0^{\infty} F(t)^2 dt$$

is finite, and the Laplace transform of $F(t)$, $f(s)$ exists, then

$$E \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } N \rightarrow \infty$$

Theorem 8:

Let the Laplace transform of $F(t)$ be

$$f(s) = \int_0^{\infty} F(t)e^{-st} dt \quad (23)$$

Then

$$A_n(s) = \sum_{i=1}^n n a_i f(is) \quad (24)$$

Theorem 9:

$N^N(t)$ can be written as

$$N^N(t) = \sum_{n=1}^N N^N_n e^{-nst} \quad (25)$$

where

$$N^N_n = 2s \left[N^N_{n1} f(s) + N^N_{n2} f(2s) + N^N_{n3} f(3s) + \dots + N^N_{nn} f(ns) \right] \quad (26)$$

and where

$${}^N b_{ij} = {}^N b_{ji} = \frac{1}{2s} \sum_{k=1}^N k^{2i} k^{2j} \quad (k^m = 0 \text{ for } m > k) \quad (27)$$

or

$${}^N b_{ij} = {}^N b_{ji} = \frac{(-1)^{i+j}}{2(i+j)} \frac{1}{i!(i-1)!} \frac{1}{j!(j-1)!} \frac{(N+i)!}{(N-i)!} \frac{(N+j)!}{(N-j)!} \quad (28)$$

Lemma 2:

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{{}^N b_{ij}}{x+i} = \frac{(-1)^{N-j}}{2} \frac{(N+j)!}{(N-j)!j!(j-1)!} \frac{(x-1)(x-2)\cdots(x-N)}{(x+1)(x+2)\cdots(x+N)} \frac{1}{x-j} \quad (29)$$

Theorem 10:

$$f(is) = \frac{1}{s} \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{{}^N B_n}{i+n} \quad (30)$$

Theorem 11:

$$\sum_{n=1}^N A_n^2 = \sum_{n=1}^N {}^N B_n f(ns) \quad (31)$$

where ${}^N B_n$ was given by equation 26.

Theorem 12:

$$N^F(0) = \sum_{n=1}^N \sqrt{2ns} A_n \quad (32)$$

Theorem 13:

$$\int_0^{\infty} G(t) L_m(st) L_n(st) dt = \sum_{j=1}^m m^a_j n^g_j \quad (33)$$

where

$$n^g_j = \sum_{i=1}^n n^a_i g((i+j)s) \quad (34)$$

where $g(s)$ is the Laplace transform of $G(t)$.

Theorem 14:

The best approximation to the j th derivative of $F(t)$ is

$$N^F(j)(t) = \sum_{n=1}^N j^A_n L_n(st) \quad (35)$$

where

$${}_j A_n = \sum_{i=1}^n n a_i (is)^j f(is) - F(+0) \sum_{i=1}^n n a_i (is)^{j-1} \quad (36)$$

$$- \frac{dF}{dt} \Big|_{t=+0} \sum_{i=1}^n n a_i (is)^{j-2} - \frac{d^2 F}{dt^2} \Big|_{t=+0} \sum_{i=1}^n n a_i (is)^{j-3}$$

$$\dots - \frac{d^{j-1} F}{dt^{j-1}} \Big|_{t=+0} \sum_{i=1}^n n a_i$$

Note

$${}_N F^{(j)}(t) \neq \frac{d^j {}_N F(t)}{dt^j} \quad (37)$$

For example, if $j = 1$, the first derivative, then

$${}_1 A_n = \sum_{i=1}^n n a_i (is) f(is) - \sqrt{2sn} F(+0) \quad (38)$$

Note equation 10, corollary B,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n n a_i = \sqrt{2ns}$$

was used to obtain equation 38. The value of $F(+0)$ can be obtained from the initial value theorem.

$$F(+0) = \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} s f(s) \quad (39)$$

If $j = 2$, the second derivative, then

$$2A_n = \sum_{i=1}^n na_i(is)^2 f(is) - \sqrt{2sn} n^2 s F(+0) - \sqrt{2sn} \left. \frac{dF}{dt} \right|_{t=+0} \quad (40)$$

If $j = 3$

$$3A_n = \sum_{i=1}^n na_i(is)^3 f(is) - \sqrt{2sn} \frac{n^2}{2} (n^2 + 1) s^2 F(+0) - \sqrt{2sn} n^2 s \left. \frac{dF}{dt} \right|_{t=+0} - \sqrt{2sn} \left. \frac{d^2 F}{dt^2} \right|_{t=+0} \quad (41)$$

For $j = 4$

$$4A_n = \sum_{i=1}^n na_i(is)^4 f(is) - \sqrt{2sn} \frac{n^2}{6} (n^4 + 4n^2 + 1) s^3 F(+0) - \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2sn} n^2 (n^2 + 1) s^2 \left. \frac{dF}{dt} \right|_{t=+0} - \sqrt{2sn} n^2 s \left. \frac{d^2 F}{dt^2} \right|_{t=+0} - \sqrt{2sn} \left. \frac{d^3 F}{dt^3} \right|_{t=+0} \quad (42)$$

Theorem 15:

If

$$f(s) = \frac{\lambda}{s + a} \quad (43)$$

ther

$$A_n = (-1)^{n+1} A \sqrt{2ns} \frac{(s-a)(2s-a)\cdots((n-1)s-a)}{(s+a)(2s+a)\cdots(ns+a)} \quad (44)$$

$$A_1 = A \sqrt{2s} \frac{1}{s+a} \quad (45)$$

Note the results for $A = 1$ and $a = 0$, $F(t)$ a unit step function. In this case

$$A_n = (-1)^{n+1} \frac{2}{\sqrt{2ns}} \quad (46)$$

hence

$${}_N F(t) = 2 \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{\sqrt{2ns}} L_n(st) \quad (47)$$

From corollary B, $L_n(0) = \sqrt{2ns}$, hence

$$\begin{aligned} {}_N F(0) &= 0 & N \text{ even} \\ &= 2 & N \text{ odd} \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

The equations shown in theorem 15 are useful for testing the accuracy of computer computations.

END

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