

## Algorithm 27

---

# A method for the numerical inversion of Laplace transforms

G. HONIG \*

*Departamento de Informática, Pontifícia Universidade Católica, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil*

U. HIRDES

*Institut für Festkörperforschung, Kernforschungsanlage Jülich, Germany, Fed. Rep.*

Received 19 February 1980

Revised 4 July 1983

*Abstract:* In this paper a numerical inversion method for Laplace transforms, based on a Fourier series expansion developed by Durbin [5], is presented. The disadvantage of the inversion methods of that type, the encountered dependence of discretization and truncation error on the free parameters, is removed by the simultaneous application of a procedure for the reduction of the discretization error, a method for accelerating the convergence of the Fourier series and a procedure that computes approximately the 'best' choice of the free parameters. Suitable for a given problem, the inversion method allows the adequate application of these procedures. Therefore, in a big range of applications a high accuracy can be achieved with only a few function evaluations of the Laplace transform. The inversion method is implemented as a FORTRAN subroutine.

*Keywords:* Numerical integration, Laplace transforms, numerical Laplace inversion.

### 1. Introduction

The significance of numerical Laplace inversion is obvious from the big range of applications. Well known in engineering, Laplace transformation methods are also used in order to solve differential and integral equations and to assist when other numerical methods are applied (see [7,10]).

A number of numerical inversion methods has been developed during the last few years. In what follows we confine ourselves to the methods using Fourier series approximations. Many tests (see [1,2,4,5,8]) have demonstrated the simplicity and the accuracy of these methods.

Fourier series were first used by Dubner and Abate [4] in 1968 for the numerical inversion of Laplace transforms. Durbin [5] improved the method in 1973.

Other authors, Simon et al. [8] in 1972, Veillon [9] in 1974 and Crump [2] in 1976, used different acceleration methods in order to speed up the convergence of the Fourier series derived in [4,5]. Some of these methods at times achieve a considerable reduction of the truncation error. However, they fail in other cases and their efficiency heavily depends on the choice of the parameters of the methods of Durbin or Dubner and Abate, and the choice of these parameters was somewhat arbitrary.

The biggest disadvantage of the above mentioned methods is the dependence of the discretization and

\* Present address: Deuzer Maschinenfabrik GMBH, Postfach 3165, D5902 Netphen 3, Germany, Fed. Rep.

truncation errors on the free parameters: by a suitable choice of these parameters the discretization error becomes arbitrarily small, but at the same time the truncation error grows to infinity and vice versa. A first step in surmounting this problem was taken in [1], (see Section 3), where the so-called 'Korrektur'-method was presented. It allows a remarkable reduction of the discretization error without increasing the truncation error.

Nevertheless the accuracy of the 'Korrektur'-method also depends on a 'good' choice of the free parameters. The procedure introduced in Section 5 gets closer to the solution of the problem. It allows the approximate computation of optimal parameters for all above mentioned methods (for the definition of 'optimal' see Section 5).

Section 4 describes a new method for the acceleration of convergence of the Fourier series. It is applicable if the infinite series for the approximation of the inversion integral does not alternate (see Section 4). In this case all other tested acceleration methods fail.

Finally, in Sections 2 and 4, those of the above mentioned inversion and acceleration methods that were found to be best by numerical tests as well as by the derived error estimates are summarized.

A new algorithm for the numerical Laplace inversion, taking into consideration the new, above mentioned, procedures and implemented as a FORTRAN subroutine<sup>1</sup>, is described in Section 6.

This subroutine can be used as a 'black box': the only input parameters are the  $t$ -values for which  $f(t) = L^{-1}[F(s)]$  shall be computed and of course the Laplace transform  $F(s)$ . On the other hand—for a concrete problem—the user can make an optimal choice of all free parameters in order to have the most efficient combination of the algorithms contained in the subroutine.

The efficiency of the inversion method is shown by the examples in Section 7.

## 2. The method of Durbin

The Laplace transform of a real function  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with  $f(t) = 0$  for  $t < 0$  and its inversion formula are defined as

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

$$f(t) = L^{-1}[F(s)] = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{v-i\infty}^{v+i\infty} e^{st} F(s) ds, \quad (2)$$

with  $s = v + iw$ ;  $v, w \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$v \in \mathbb{R}$  is arbitrary, but greater than the real parts of all the singularities of  $F(s)$ . The integrals in (1) and (2) exist for  $\text{Re}(s) > a \in \mathbb{R}$  if

- (a)  $f$  is locally integrable,
- (b) there exist a  $t_0 \geq 0$  and  $k, a \in \mathbb{R}$ , such that  $|f(t)| \leq k e^{at}$  for all  $t \geq t_0$ ,
- (c) for all  $t \in (0, \infty)$  there is a neighbourhood in which  $f$  is of bounded variation.

In the following we always assume that  $f$  fulfils the conditions (3) and in addition that there are no singularities of  $F(s)$  to the right of the origin. Therefore (1) and (2) are defined for all  $v > 0$ . The possibility to choose  $v > 0$  arbitrarily, is the basis of the methods of Dubner–Abate and Durbin. The latter is now described.

Using the inversion formula (see [5])

$$f(t) = \frac{e^{vt}}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} [\text{Re}\{F(s)\} \cos(wt) - \text{Im}\{F(s)\} \sin(wt)] dw, \quad (4)$$

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix A, subroutine LAPIN (LAPlace INversion).

which is equivalent to (2), and a Fourier series expansion of  $h(t) = e^{-vt} f(t)$  in the interval  $[0, 2T]$ , Durbin derived the approximation formula

$$f(t) = \frac{e^{vt}}{T} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re}\{F(v)\} + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \operatorname{Re}\left\{F\left(v + i \frac{k\pi}{T}\right)\right\} \right. \\ \left. \times \cos \frac{k\pi}{T} t - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \operatorname{Im}\left\{F\left(v + i \frac{k\pi}{T}\right)\right\} \sin \frac{k\pi}{T} t \right] - F1(v, t, T), \quad (5)$$

for  $0 < t < 2T$ .

$F1(v, t, T)$  is the discretization error, given by

$$F1(v, t, T) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} e^{-2vkT} f(2kT + t). \quad (6)$$

Since there are no singularities of  $F(s)$  in the right halfplane we have (see [3, Bd. 1]) a  $c > 0$ ,  $m \geq 0$  and a  $t_0 \geq 0$ , such that

$$|f(t)| \leq ct^m \quad \text{for all } t \geq t_0. \quad (7)$$

From (6) and (7) the following estimates for the discretization error can be deduced (see [5]):

(a)  $m = 0$ ,

$$|F1(v, t, T)| \leq \frac{c}{e^{2vt} - 1}, \quad (8)$$

(b)  $m > 0$ ,

$$|F1(v, t, T)| \leq K(2T)^m e^{-2vT} \left( \frac{\alpha_1}{2vT} + \dots + \frac{\alpha_{m+1}}{(2vT)^{m+1}} \right), \quad (9)$$

where  $K, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{m+1} \in \mathbb{R}$ .

These estimates show that the discretization error can be made arbitrarily small by choosing  $v$  sufficiently large.

As the infinite series in (5) can only be summed up to a finite number  $N$  of terms, there also occurs a truncation error given by

$$FA(N, v, t, T) = \frac{e^{vt}}{T} \left[ \sum_{k=N+1}^{\infty} \left\{ \operatorname{Re}\left\{F\left(v + i \frac{k\pi}{T}\right)\right\} \cos \frac{k\pi}{T} t - \operatorname{Im}\left\{F\left(v + i \frac{k\pi}{T}\right)\right\} \sin \frac{k\pi}{T} t \right\} \right]. \quad (10)$$

Hence the approximate value for  $f(t)$  is

$$f_N(t) = \frac{e^{vt}}{T} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re}\{F(v)\} + \sum_{k=0}^N \left\{ \operatorname{Re}\left\{F\left(v + i \frac{k\pi}{T}\right)\right\} \cos \frac{k\pi}{T} t \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. - \operatorname{Im}\left\{F\left(v + i \frac{k\pi}{T}\right)\right\} \sin \frac{k\pi}{T} t \right\} \right]. \quad (11)$$

### 3. The reduction of the discretization error by the 'Korrektur'-method

It is obvious from (8) and (9) that the discretization error can be made arbitrarily small if the product  $vT$  is sufficiently large.

Unfortunately, the truncation error (10) may diverge for large values of  $vT$ .

The ‘Korrektur’-method allows a reduction of the discretization error without enlarging the truncation error. With (11), equation (5) can be written in the form

$$f(t) = f_\infty(t) - F1(v, t, T). \tag{12}$$

The ‘Korrektur’-method uses the approximation formula

$$f(t) = f_\infty(t) - e^{-2vT} f_\infty(2T+t) - F2(v, t, T). \tag{13}$$

As stated in the theorem below, the discretization error  $F2(v, t, T)$  is much smaller than  $F1(v, t, T)$ .

Taking into consideration the truncation error (10), we find that the approximate value for  $f(t)$ , using the ‘Korrektur’-method (13), is given by

$$f_{NK}(t) = f_N(t) - e^{-2vT} f_{N_0}(2T+t). \tag{14}$$

It should be mentioned that the truncation error of the ‘Korrektur’-term  $e^{-2vT} f_\infty(2T+t)$ , is much smaller than  $FA(N, v, t, T)$  if  $N = N_0$ . We can therefore choose  $N_0 < N$  (see Section 6), which means that only a few additional function evaluations of  $F(s)$  are necessary to achieve a considerable reduction of the discretization error. This error reduction is pointed out in the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Suppose  $f$  is a real function with  $f(t) = 0$  for  $t < 0$  that possesses the properties (3) and  $F(s) = L[f(t)]$  its Laplace transform that has no singularities to the right of the origin, and suppose the ‘Korrektur’-formula (13) is used for the numerical inversion of  $F(s)$ , then*

$$(a) \quad |F2(v, t, T)| \leq \frac{2c}{e^{2vT}(e^{2vT} - 1)} \quad \text{if } m = 0, \tag{15}$$

$$(b) \quad |F2(v, t, T)| \leq 3^m e^{-2vT} \left\{ K(2T)^m e^{-2vT} \left( \frac{\alpha_1}{2vT} + \dots + \frac{\alpha_{m+1}}{(2vT)^{m+1}} \right) \right\} \tag{16}$$

if  $m > 0$  and  $(m!)/2^m - 1 \leq 2vT$ .

For the definition of  $c, m, K, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{m+1}$  see equations (7), (8) and (9). For the proof see [1] or [6].

**Remarks.** A comparison with the method of Durbin (see (8) and (9)) shows a reduction of the error bound by the factor  $2e^{-2vT}$  for  $m = 0$  and  $3^m e^{-2vT}$  for  $m > 0$ . The condition  $m!/2^m - 1 \leq 2vT$  might be difficult to fulfill for large  $m$ , and hence the application of the ‘Korrektur’-method is not recommended in such cases.

As mentioned before, an adequate reduction of the total error can be obtained by the ‘Korrektur’-method only if (for fixed  $N$  and  $T$ ) the parameter  $v$  is suitable. This is illustrated in Fig. 1. It shows the error curves

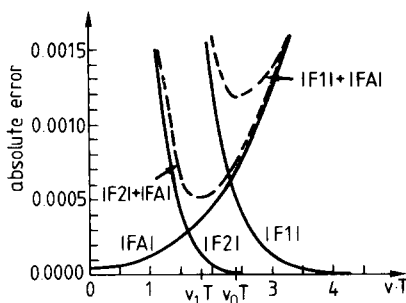


Fig. 1.

of the method of Durbin ( $F1$  and  $FA$ ) and of the ‘Korrektur’-method ( $F2$  and  $FA$ ). A successful application of the ‘Korrektur’-method requires a  $v < v_0$ . For  $v > v_0$  the truncation error dominates and the reduced discretization error  $F2$  does not lead to a noticeable reduction of the total error.

The opposite holds if the methods for the acceleration of convergence, that we describe in the following part, are applied. Acceleration of convergence is only sensible if  $v > v_0$  or, which is the same, if the truncation error dominates.

However, a simultaneous application of an acceleration method and the ‘Korrektur’-method (as realized in the subroutine LAPIN) is recommended, if the parameters are optimally chosen by the procedures introduced in Section 5.

#### 4. Acceleration of convergence

In this section three acceleration methods used in the subroutine LAPIN (see Appendix A) are briefly described: the  $\varepsilon$ -algorithm, the minimum–maximum method and a method based on curve fitting. The latter is new, whereas the  $\varepsilon$ -algorithm was already used in [2,9], the minimum–maximum method in [1] in order to speed up the convergence of the series approximating the Laplace inversion integral. We have also tested other acceleration methods such as the Euler transformation, or Aitken’s extrapolation procedure (see [8]). But these turned out to be less efficient than the above mentioned methods.

We can consider  $f_N(t)$  (see (11)) for fixed  $t$  as a discrete function of  $N$  and define:

**Definition.**  $f_N(t)$  as a function of  $N$  is monotonous if

$$|f_N(t) - f_\infty(t)| \geq |f_M(t) - f_\infty(t)|$$

for all  $N, M$  with  $N \leq M$ .

For a non-monotonous  $f_N(t)$  the  $\varepsilon$ -algorithm (EPAL) and the minimum–maximum method (MINI-MAX) in general significantly increase the rate of convergence. However, they fail—as do the Euler transformation and Aitken’s extrapolation procedure—for a monotonous  $f_N(t)$ . The method based on curve fitting (CFM) leads in this case to a considerable improvement in the results. With

$$c_k = \frac{e^{vt}}{T} \left[ \operatorname{Re} \left\{ F \left( v + i \frac{k\pi}{T} \right) \right\} \cos \frac{k\pi}{T} t - \operatorname{Im} \left\{ \left( v + i \frac{k\pi}{T} \right) \right\} \sin \frac{k\pi}{T} t \right], \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

we can replace (11) by

$$f_N(t) = \frac{1}{2} c_0 + \sum_{k=1}^N c_k. \quad (17)$$

The  $\varepsilon$ -algorithm applied to (17) is defined as follows:

Let  $N = 2q + 1$ ,  $q \in N$ ,

$$s_m := \sum_{k=1}^m c_k$$

and

$$\varepsilon_{p+1}^{(m)} := \varepsilon_{p-1}^{(m+1)} + 1 / \left( \varepsilon_p^{(m+1)} - \varepsilon_p^{(m)} \right), \quad \varepsilon_0^{(m)} := 0, \quad \varepsilon_1^{(m)} := s_m, \quad (18)$$

then the sequence  $\varepsilon_1^{(1)}, \varepsilon_3^{(1)}, \varepsilon_5^{(1)}, \dots, \varepsilon_{2q+1}^{(1)} = \varepsilon_N^{(1)}$ , converges to  $f_\infty(t) - c_0/2$ . For a non-monotone  $f_N(t)$  in general it converges faster than the sequence of the partial sums  $s_m$ ,  $m = 1, 2, \dots$  of the untransformed series.

The *minimum–maximum method* also increases the rate of convergence only in the case of a non-monotonous  $f_N(t)$ . The method works as follows. Having found three neighbouring stationary values of  $f_N(t)$  as a function of  $N$ , say a maximum at  $N = N1$  and  $N = N3$ , and a minimum at  $N = N2$ , an interpolating function for the maximum values at  $N = N1$  and  $N = N3$  is constructed. The mean value of the minimum at  $N = N2$  and the function value of the interpolating function at  $N = N2$  yields the new approximation for  $f_\infty(t)$ . For a more detailed description of MINIMAX see [1].

The *method based on curve fitting* (CFM), applicable only for monotonous  $f_N(t)$ , consists in fitting the parameters of any function that has a horizontal asymptote  $\gamma_A(x) \equiv \gamma$ , by demanding that this function is an interpolating function for the points  $(N, f_N(t))$ ,  $0 \leq N_0 \leq N \leq N_1$ . The function value of the asymptote  $\gamma$  is the desired approximation for  $f(t)$ . With the simple rational function

$$r(x) := \frac{\alpha}{x^2} + \frac{\beta}{x} + \gamma, \quad (19)$$

for example, we achieved high accuracy already for small  $N_1$ .

The CFM fills an important gap: now it is also possible to speed up the convergence of the Fourier series (5) in case of monotonous  $f_n(t)$ <sup>2</sup>. The subroutine LAPIN (see Appendix A) automatically chooses between CFM and EPAL (MINIMAX) depending on whether  $f_N(t)$  is a monotonous function of  $N$ . Tests have shown that for non-monotonous  $f_N(t)$  EPAL mostly is superior to MINIMAX in accuracy. However, we found examples where the  $\varepsilon$ -algorithm falsifies the results, but the minimum–maximum method did not. In these cases, the subroutine LAPIN chooses by itself the MINIMAX method to accelerate the convergence of the series (for more details, see Appendix A, significance of the parameter  $H$ ). Furthermore, the  $\varepsilon$ -algorithm is not applicable for arbitrarily large  $N$  in (17), because of overflows occurring in (18) for larger  $N$ .

## 5. The choice of optimal parameters

We already mentioned that a good choice of the free parameters  $N$  and  $\text{CON} = vT$  is not only important for the accuracy of the results but also for the application of the ‘Korrektur’-method and the methods for the acceleration of convergence (see Fig. 1). These methods do not improve the results if the parameters are chosen badly.

Two methods are now presented which approximately determine the ‘optimal’  $v$  for fixed  $N$  and  $T$ . The main difference between the two methods is the definition of ‘optimal parameters’.

**Definition A.** For fixed  $N$  and  $T$  the parameter  $v$  of the method of Durbin (see (12)), with or without the application of the ‘Korrektur’-method or a method for the acceleration of convergence, is optimal if the absolute values of discretization and truncation error are equal.

**Definition B.** For fixed  $N$  and  $T$  the parameter  $v$  of the above mentioned methods (see Definition A) is optimal if the sum of the absolute values of discretization and truncation error is minimal (see Fig. 1, where the optimal  $v$  is given by  $v_0$  and  $v_1$ ).

**Method A.** Let  $\tilde{f}_N(t)$ ,  $\tilde{f}_{NK}(t)$  be the approximate values for  $f(t)$  computed by the method of Durbin (12) and the ‘Korrektur’-method (13) respectively. The bar indicates that one of the methods for the acceleration of convergence may have been applied.

Let  $R(N, v, t, T)$  be the expression in the brackets on the right side of (10). Neglecting the dependence of  $v$  in  $R$  we can write for fixed  $t, T$ :  $R(N, v, t, T) \equiv R(N) \cdot \delta$ , where  $\delta \in [-1, +1]$  indicates the application of an acceleration method ( $\delta \equiv 1$  if none of the acceleration methods is used). The truncation of  $\tilde{f}_N(t)$  or  $\tilde{f}_{NK}(t)$  is therefore given by

$$\text{FA}(N, v, t, T) \equiv \frac{e^{vt}}{T} R(N) \delta. \quad (20)$$

<sup>2</sup> For instance,  $f_N(t_0)$  often is a monotonous function of  $N$ , if  $f(t)$  is a step function with the discontinuity in  $t_0$ .

With (5), (6) and (20) we find

$$\tilde{f}_N(t) \cong f(t) - \frac{e^{v_1 t}}{T} R(N) \delta + O(e^{-2v_1 t}). \quad (21)$$

Let  $v_1, v_2$  be large and  $v_1 \neq v_2^3$ , then

$$\tilde{f}_N^1(t) - \tilde{f}_N^2(t) \cong R(N) \delta \cdot (e^{v_2 t} - e^{v_1 t}) / T \quad (22)$$

or

$$R(N) \delta \cong T \frac{\tilde{f}_N^1(t) - \tilde{f}_N^2(t)}{e^{v_2 t} - e^{v_1 t}}. \quad (23a)$$

Similarly we get for the 'Korrektur'-method

$$R(N) \delta \cong T \frac{\tilde{f}_{NK}^1(t) - \tilde{f}_{NK}^2(t)}{e^{v_2 t} - e^{v_1 t}}. \quad (23b)$$

The discretization error (6) of the method of Durbin can be written as (see Section 6)

$$F1(v, t, T) = e^{-2vT} f(2T + t) + O(e^{-4vT}). \quad (24a)$$

From (13) we find for the discretization error of the 'Korrektur'-method

$$F2(v, t, T) = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} e^{-2vTk} \{ f(2kT + t) - f(2T(3k-2) + t) \}.$$

Hence

$$F2(v, t, T) = e^{-4vT} \{ f(4T + t) - f(8T + t) \} + O(e^{-6vT}). \quad (24b)$$

Using Definition A, the equations (23) and (24) easily lead to the following equations for the optimal parameter  $v = v_{\text{OPT}}^{\Delta}$ :

$$v_{\text{OPT}}^{\Delta} \cong \frac{1}{2T + t} \ln \left| \frac{R(N) \delta}{T \tilde{f}_N(2T + t)} \right| \quad (\text{method of Durbin}) \quad (25a)$$

and

$$v_{\text{OPT}}^{\Delta} \cong - \frac{1}{4T + t} \ln \left| \frac{R(N) \delta}{T \{ \tilde{f}_N(4T + t) - \tilde{f}_N(8T + t) \}} \right| \quad (\text{'Korrektur'-method}). \quad (25b)$$

Because of Definition A an upper bound for the total absolute error  $|f(t) - \tilde{f}_N(t)|$  or  $|f(t) - \tilde{f}_{NK}(t)|$  for  $v = v_{\text{OPT}}^{\Delta}$  is approximately given by

$$\text{TERR} \cong 2 \frac{e^{v_{\text{OPT}}^{\Delta} \cdot t}}{T} |R(N) \delta|. \quad (26)$$

**Method B.** We now use Definition B and assume that  $R(N, v, t, T)$  is no longer a constant function of  $v$  to get a more accurate approximation formula for  $v_{\text{OPT}}$ .

The dependence of  $v$  is assumed to be as follows ( $R(N, v, t, T) = R(N, v) \delta$  because  $t, T$  are fixed,  $v_1 > 0$  arbitrary):

$$\begin{aligned} R(N, v) \delta \cong R(N, v_1) \delta \cdot & \left[ \operatorname{Re} \left\{ F \left( v + i \frac{N\pi}{T} \right) \right\} \cos \frac{N\pi}{T} t - \operatorname{Im} \left\{ F \left( v + i \frac{N\pi}{T} \right) \right\} \sin \frac{N\pi}{T} t \right] \\ & / \left[ \operatorname{Re} \left\{ F \left( v_1 + i \frac{N\pi}{T} \right) \right\} \cos \frac{N\pi}{T} t - \operatorname{Im} \left\{ F \left( v_1 + i \frac{N\pi}{T} \right) \right\} \sin \frac{N\pi}{T} t \right]^{-1}. \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

<sup>3</sup> We found that for example  $v_1 = 20, v_2 = v_1 - 2$  is a good choice.

The acceleration factor  $\delta$  can be computed very easily from (23a) without additional function evaluations:

$$\delta = \frac{\bar{f}_N^1(t) - \bar{f}_N^2(t)}{f_N^1(t) - f_N^2(t)}. \quad (28)$$

Let  $\text{AR}(v_1, v, N)$  be the expression in brackets on the right side of (27) and  $R(N, v_1)\delta := R(N)\delta$ , where  $R(N)\delta$  is computed by Method A. then (27) is expressible in the form

$$R(N, v)\delta = R(N)\delta \cdot \text{AR}(v_1, v, N). \quad (29)$$

Definition B implies (for the method of Durbin);

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial v} \left[ |R(N, v)\delta| \frac{e^{vt}}{T} + |F1(v, t, T)| \right]_{|v=v_{\text{OPT}}^{\text{B}}} = 0. \quad (30)$$

Approximating the derivative of  $R(N, v)$  by finite differences, we find the following iteration procedure to solve equation (30):

$$\left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial v} R(N, v) \right]^{(i)} \equiv \frac{R(N, v^{(i-1)}) - R(N, v_1^{(i-1)})}{v^{(i-1)} - v_1^{(i-1)}}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, s, \quad (31a)$$

$$v^{(0)} = v_{\text{OPT}}^{\text{A}}, \quad v_1^{(0)} = v_1, \quad (31b)$$

$$v_1^{(i)} = v^{(i-1)}, \quad i = 1, \dots, s-1. \quad (31c)$$

$$v^{(i)} = -\frac{1}{2T+t} \ln \left[ \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial v} |R(N, v)^{(i)}\delta + |R(N, v^{(i-1)})\delta \cdot t}{2T^2 |\bar{f}_N(2T+t)|} \right], \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, s. \quad (31d)$$

In (31b)  $v_{\text{OPT}}^{\text{A}}$  and  $v_1$  are defined by Method A (see equation (25) and (22) respectively). Equation (31d) follows from (30) substituting (31a) for the derivative of  $R(N, v)$  and (24a) for  $F1(v, t, T)$ .

Hence the optimal parameter  $v = v_{\text{OPT}}^{\text{B}}$  for fixed  $N, T, t$  is given by

$$v_{\text{OPT}}^{\text{B}} = v^{(s)}. \quad (32)$$

An analogous result holds for the ‘Korrektur’-method: Replacing  $F1$  by  $F2$  in (30), we only have to substitute (31d) by

$$v^{(i)} = -\frac{1}{4T+t} \ln \left[ \frac{\left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial v} |R(N, v)^{(i)}\delta + |R(N, v^{(i-1)})\delta \cdot t \right]}{4T^2 |\bar{f}_N(4T+t) - \bar{f}_N(8T+t)|} \right], \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, s. \quad (31e)$$

It is sufficient to choose  $s = 1$  or  $s = 2$ , as numerical tests have shown.

Again it is possible to compute approximately an upper bound for the total error, if the parameter  $v = v_{\text{OPT}}^{\text{B}}$  is used for the computation of  $\bar{f}_N(t)$ <sup>4</sup>. We find

$$\text{TERR} \equiv \frac{e^{v_{\text{OPT}}^{\text{B}} \cdot t}}{T} |R(N, v_{\text{OPT}}^{\text{B}})|\delta + e^{-2v_{\text{OPT}}^{\text{B}} \cdot T} |\bar{f}_N(2T+t)|. \quad (33)$$

**Remarks.** The simplifications made in order to derive equations (25) and (31) do in general not cause any difficulties. Besides a few exceptions, which are discussed later, the optimal parameters  $v_{\text{OPT}}^{\text{A}}$  and  $v_{\text{OPT}}^{\text{B}}$  are a good approximation for the true optimal parameters.

If the  $\epsilon$ -algorithm is used in order to accelerate the convergence of the series (5), it is not possible to compute the acceleration factor  $\delta$  for large  $N$  with the desired accuracy (the  $\epsilon$ -algorithm breaks down after a certain  $N_0 < N$  depending on  $v, t$  and  $T$ ;  $N_0$  is not known in advance; see also the final remarks of Section

<sup>4</sup> A similar equation holds for  $\bar{f}_{NK}(t)$ .



4). Therefore the minimum–maximum method allows a more accurate determination of the optimal parameters by Method A or B, and hence of the total error (26) or (33).

## 6. Remarks about the use of the algorithm

First some input parameters of the subroutine LAPIN are described (see also Appendix A):

- T1, TN Lower and upper bound of the interval in which  $f(t)$  shall be approximated.
- IMAN The choice of this parameter decides whether the free parameters of the subroutine are placed automatically or not:  
 IMAN = 0 automatical,  
 IMAN = 1 manual choice of parameters.
- ILAPIN If ILAPIN = 1, the approximate value  $f_N(t)$  (see (11)) is computed with  $T = t$ , if ILAPIN = 2 with  $T = TN$ . For  $T = t$  the computation of sine and cosine terms and of the imaginary parts of  $F(s)$  in (11) is cancelled, on the other hand  $\text{Re}\{F(s)\}$  becomes dependent on  $t$ . Hence ILAPIN = 1 is recommended if the inverse is computed only for a few  $t$ -values.
- IKONV IKONV = 1 implies the use of the acceleration method MINIMAX, IKONV = 2 the acceleration of convergence with EPAL. In both cases the subroutine automatically chooses the curve fitting method (CFM) for monotonous  $f_N(t)$ .
- ICON If this parameter is zero (ICON = 0) the parameter  $v$  is not optimally chosen by Method A or B (see Section 5). For ICON = 1 the subroutine LAPIN chooses an optimal  $v$  for  $t = t_{[N/2]}$  (see Appendix A) and uses this  $v$  for the computation of  $f(t)$  in the whole interval. If ICON = 2 an optimal  $v$  is computed for all  $t_k \in (T1, TN)$  (see Appendix A for the definition of  $t_k$ ).
- IKOR IKOR = 1 leads to the application of the ‘Korrektur’-method, IKOR = 0 to the approximation of  $f(t)$  without the ‘Korrektur’-method.

Table 1 shows the possible combinations of the above described algorithms offered by the subroutine LAPIN. Method A for an optimal choice of the free parameters is used if ILAPIN = 2, Method B if ILAPIN = 1.

The application of the ‘Korrektur’-method is not recommended first, in the case that the absolute value of the ‘Korrektur’-term  $f(2T + t)$  is small or equal to zero:  $|f(2T + t)| \ll 1$  (no noticeable improvement of the accuracy occurs), and second, if  $f(t)$  is a rapidly increasing function as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  (see the remarks to Theorem 3.1).

The same holds for the application of the methods for an optimal choice of the free parameters if the auxiliary quantities (these are  $f(2T + t)$  in (24a) and  $f(4T + t)$   $f(8T + t)$  in (24b)) are equal to zero. Although the denominators in (25) do not vanish (because of the discretization and truncation errors), the computed optimal parameters might be misleading. In these cases, it is very helpful to have a global conception about the Laplace inverse  $f(t)$ . If not already known, this can be obtained easily by the subroutine LAPIN choosing either IMAN = 0 or IMAN = 1, ILAPIN = 2, ICON = 0, IKOR = 0 and IKONV = 1. The latter combination of the parameters coincides with the method of Durbin, at which the MINIMAX-method is used to speed up the convergence of the Fourier series.

Let NS1 be the number of function evaluations of  $F(s)$  used to approximate  $f(t)$  and NS2 the number of function evaluations used to approximate the ‘Korrektur’-term  $f(2T + t)$ . For given NS1 we found that

Table 1

	ILAPIN	ICON	IKOR	IKONV
IMAN = 1	1	0/1/2	0/1	1/2
IMAN = 1	2	0/1	0/1	1/2
IMAN = 0	1	1	0	2

Table 2

<i>T</i>	<i>t</i> <sub>0</sub>	<i>t</i> <sub>0</sub>	2 <i>t</i> <sub>1</sub> + <i>t</i> <sub>0</sub>	4 <i>t</i> <sub>1</sub> + <i>t</i> <sub>0</sub>	8 <i>t</i> <sub>1</sub> + <i>t</i> <sub>0</sub>
CON	20	18	5	5	5

	ILAPIN = 1 ICON = 1	ILAPIN = 2 ICON = 1	ILAPIN = 1 ICON = 2
<i>t</i> <sub>0</sub>	$T1 + (TN - T1) \left[ \frac{N}{2} \right] / (N + 1)$	$T1 + (TN - T1) \left[ \frac{N}{2} \right] / (N + 1)$	$T1 + k(TN - T1) / (N + 1), k = 1(1)N^a$
<i>t</i> <sub>1</sub>	$T1 + (TN - T1) \left[ \frac{N}{2} \right] / (N + 1)$	TN	$T1 + k(TN - T1) / (N + 1), k = 1(1)N^a$

<sup>a</sup> *N* = number of *t*-values for which *f*(*t*) shall be approximated.

NS1/2 ≤ NS2 ≤ NS1 if NS1 ≤ 100 and NS1/10 ≤ NS2 ≤ NS1/2 if NS1 ≥ 100 is a good choice for NS2.

As stated above, occurring overflows in (18) often make it impossible to transform a given number NS1 of terms of the series (17) by the ε-algorithm. If it breaks down after *N* < NS1 iterations the accuracy is diminished with that the optimal parameters and the total error (33) are calculated. The MINIMAX-algorithm does not cause such problems.

Finally, we would like to mention that it can be necessary to know the *s*-values in advance for that *F*(*s*) has to be evaluated (for instance, if *F*(*s*) is a not analytically known solution of a differential or integral equation). These *s*-values are defined by *T* and CON = *v* · *T* (*s* = *v* + i*k*π/*T*, *k* = 0(1)NSUM). In Table 2, the values of CON and *T*, for which the 'auxiliary quantities' (*f*<sub>NS1</sub>(*T*)) must be computed, are listed.

If ICON = 0 no auxiliary quantities are needed. If ICON > 0, IKOR = 0 requires the computation of *f*<sub>NS1</sub>(*t*<sub>0</sub>) and *f*<sub>NS1</sub>(2*t*<sub>1</sub> + *t*<sub>0</sub>), IKOR = 1 the computation of *f*<sub>NS1</sub>(*t*<sub>0</sub>), *f*<sub>NS1</sub>(4*t*<sub>1</sub> + *t*<sub>0</sub>) and *f*<sub>NS1</sub>(8*t*<sub>1</sub> + *t*<sub>0</sub>) with the above given values of CON, *t*<sub>0</sub> and *t*<sub>1</sub>.

### 7. Numerical examples

From the following examples one can get some idea of the accuracy of the subroutine LAPIN and the possibilities it offers to find an 'optimal' solution for a given problem by a suitable choice of the different

Table 3

$$F(t) = t \cdot \sin(t)/2, F(s) = s(s^2 + 1)^{-2}$$

Method Code NS1 + NS2	Durbin ( <i>v</i> · <i>T</i> = 5) 2000	LAPIN			
		2-1-0-1 30	IMAN = 0 60	1-2-1-1 160 + 140	
<i>t</i>	Real absolute error			by (33)	
1	0.4 D-02	0.2 D-02	0.1 D-11	0.351 D-10	0.273 D-10
3	0.6 D-01	0.1 D-01	0.1 D-11	0.211 D-09	0.236 D-09
5	0.1 D-01	0.2 D-02	0.1 D-12	0.573 D-09	0.648 D-09
7	0.8 D-01	0.9 D-02	0.2 D-09	0.786 D-09	0.979 D-09
9	0.2 D-01	0.9 D-03	0.1 D-10	0.774 D-09	0.191 D-08
11	0.1 D-01	0.3 D-03	0.2 D-10	0.590 D-09	0.273 D-08
13	0.6 D-01	0.2 D-01	0.9 D-10	0.107 D-08	0.372 D-08
15	0.5 D-02	0.1 D-01	0.2 D-09	0.175 D-08	0.356 D-08
17	0.7 D-02	0.2 D-01	0.1 D-09	0.225 D-08	0.569 D-08
19	0.1 D-00	0.5 D-02	0.4 D-10	0.321 D-09	0.633 D-08
CPU-time sec (for <i>t</i> = 1(1)20)	1.21	0.04	0.042	1.14	

All calculations were performed in double precision on the IBM 370/168 computer of KFA Jülich.

algorithms described above. The parameters used in the following tables are defined in Section 6. The code numbers refer to the parameters ILAPIN-ICON-IKOR-IKONV (1-2-0-1, for example, means: ILAPIN = 1, ICON = 2, IKOR = 0 and IKONV = 1). IMAN = 0 coincides with 1-1-0-2.

Table 3 shows the errors occurring if  $F(s) = s(s^2 + 1)^{-2}$  is inverted. Three different parameter combinations of LAPIN are compared with the method of Durbin. With only a few function evaluations of  $F(s)$  and little CPU-time, LAPIN computes the Laplace inverse with a considerable accuracy. For instance, the first two columns show that the method of Durbin needs about 60 times more function evaluations and 30 times more CPU-time than LAPIN to get a comparable accuracy. Column 3 shows—and this was confirmed by many other examples—that using the subroutine LAPIN as a ‘black box’ (IMAN = 0) yields excellent results. From a comparison between columns 5 and 6 it is obvious that the absolute error computed by (33) is a good approximation for the real error (such an error estimation is only possible if ICON = 2; it is most accurate for IKONV = 1).

As a second example, the Laplace transform of the step function

$$U(t - 10) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 10, \\ 0.5 & t = 10, \\ 1 & t > 10, \end{cases}$$

was inverted (see Table 4). Comparing the results of Durbin with those obtained from LAPIN we come to the same conclusion as in the example above. The high accuracy at  $t = 10$  is possible only if the curve-fitting method is used to speed up the convergence of the series. EPAL and MINIMAX fail because  $f_N(10)$  is monotonous in  $N$ . But also at points very close to the discontinuity at  $t = 10$  a high accuracy is obtained by LAPIN as demonstrated in the last column of Table 4.

From Table 5 one gets some idea of the effect of the ‘Korrektur’-method. It can be seen that (with the same number of function evaluations) the ‘Korrektur’-method (right part of Table 5) is clearly more accurate. This is not only caused by the reduction of the discretization error. The optimal parameter  $v_{OPT} \cdot T$  is smaller if the ‘Korrektur’-method is applied. Hence the truncation error is reduced too.

As a final example, we show in Table 6 the dependence of the optimal parameter  $v_{OPT}$  on the number NS1 of function evaluations ( $v_{OPT}$  also depends on  $t$ ). It is obvious that primarily the possibility to

Table 4  
 $f(t) = U(t - 10)$ ,  $F(s) = \exp(-10s)/s$

Method	Durbin	LAPIN		LAPIN	
Code	( $v \cdot T = 5$ )	2-1-0-1	IMAN = 0	1-2-1-2	
NS1 + NS2	2000	50	60	350 + 150	
$t$	Real absolute error			$t$	Real absolute error
5	0.6 D-02	0.4 D-05	0.5 D-06	9.0	0.1 D-13
6	0.6 D-02	0.1 D-04	0.5 D-06	9.2	0.3 D-12
7	0.6 D-02	0.6 D-04	0.5 D-06	9.4	0.8 D-14
8	0.7 D-02	0.5 D-03	0.5 D-06	9.6	0.1 D-09
9	0.7 D-02	0.1 D-01	0.6 D-06	9.8	0.6 D-05
10	0.6 D-02	0.5 D-04 <sup>a</sup>	0.6 D-06 <sup>a</sup>	10.0	0.3 D-09 <sup>a</sup>
11	0.5 D-02	0.3 D-04	0.8 D-05	10.2	0.1 D-05
12	0.6 D-02	0.6 D-02	0.5 D-06	10.4	0.8 D-10
13	0.6 D-02	0.1 D-02	0.5 D-06	10.6	0.2 D-09
14	0.6 D-02	0.1 D-02	0.5 D-06	10.8	0.8 D-10
15	0.6 D-02	0.2 D-02	0.5 D-06	11.0	0.2 D-12
CPU-time				CPU-time	
sec (for				sec	
$t = 1(1)20$ )	2.02	0.06	0.32		13.70

<sup>a</sup> CFM was used to accelerate convergence.

Table 5

$$f(t) = (-t^3 + 9t^2 - 18t + 6)/6, F(s) = (s-1)^3/s^4$$

Method	LAPIN			LAPIN		
	1-2-0-2 (without 'Korrektur')			1-2-1-2 (with 'Korrektur')		
	NS1 + NS2			60 + 40		
$t$	Absolute error		$v_{OPT} \cdot T$	Absolute error		$v_{OPT} \cdot T$
	Real	By (33)		Real	By (33)	
1	0.1 D-10	0.2 D-10	12.2	0.3 D-12	0.4 D-15	9.4
3	0.9 D-10	0.1 D-10	14.7	0.6 D-12	0.5 D-13	9.9
6	0.1 D-09	0.2 D-10	15.4	0.2 D-12	0.2 D-12	10.1
0	0.5 D-10	0.7 D-10	16.0	0.8 D-13	0.1 D-12	10.6
CPU-time sec ( $t = 1(1)10$ )	1.49			0.81		

Table 6

$$f(t) = 1 - \exp(-t) \operatorname{erfc}(\sqrt{t}); F(s) = 1/(s\sqrt{s+1})$$

Method	LAPIN		
	1-2-0-2		
	Absolute error at $t=1$		$v_{OPT} \cdot T$
NS1	Real	By (33)	
10	0.103 D-04	0.416 D-05	6.61
20	0.352 D-10	0.900 D-10	11.96
30	0.356 D-11	0.801 D-11	13.16

calculate  $v_{OPT}$  for a given NS1 (and NS2) makes the inversion methods based on Fourier series expansions accurate and efficient.

## Appendix A. The FORTRAN subroutine LAPIN

### A.1. Purpose

Suppose  $f(t)$  is a real function and  $F(s)$  its Laplace transform, that has no singularities to the right of the origin, then the subroutine LAPIN calculates from  $F(s)$  for a programmers-chosen set of  $t$ -values, the corresponding values for  $f(t)$ , using the above described algorithms.

### A.2. Usage

CALL LAPIN (F, T1, TN, N, IMAN, ILAPIN, IKONV, NS1, NS2, ICON, IKOR, CON, H, E, IER, IOUT)

### A.3. Description of the parameters

Type: INTEGER \*4 N, IMAN, ILAPIN, IKONV, NS1, NS2, ICON, IER, IOUT  
DOUBLE PRECISION T1, TN, CON, H, E

Input parameters: T1, TN, N, IMAN, ILAPIN, IKONV, NS1, NS2, ICON, IKOR, CON

Output parameters: H, IER

## A.3.1. Significance of the parameters

- F Laplace transform—external subroutine, to declare as EXTERNAL in the calling program and written by the user,  
 SUBROUTINE F (SR, SI, FR, FI),  
 DOUBLE PRECISION SR, SI, FR, FI,  
 SR real part of  $s$ ,  
 SI imaginary part of  $s$ ,  
 FR real part of Laplace transform,  
 FI imaginary part of Laplace-transform,
- T1, TN lower and upper bounds of the interval in which  $f(t)$  shall be approximated,  
 N number of  $t$ -values for which  $f(t)$  shall be computed, the  $t$ -values are given by  

$$t_k = T1 + (TN - T1)k / (N + 1), \quad k = 1(1)N,$$
- IMAN = 0 all further parameters are placed automatically, except NS1, which has to be set equal to 60;  
 = 1 a manual choice of the following parameters is possible,  
 ILAPIN = 1 implies the application of the approximation formula with  $T = t$ ,  
 ILAPIN = 2 with  $T = TN$  ( $T = 2TN$  for the 'Korrektur'-terms),
- IKONV if IKONV = 1 the minimum–maximum method, if IKONV = 2 the  $\varepsilon$ -algorithm is used to accelerate the convergence of the series,
- NS1 number of function evaluations of  $F(s)$  used to approximate  
 $f(t)$  ( $f_N(t) = f_{NS1}(t)$ ) (NS1 = 60 if IMAN = 0),
- NS2 number of function evaluations of  $F(s)$  used to approximate the 'Korrektur'-term  $f(2T + t)$   
 $(f_N(2T + t) = f_{NS2}(2T + t))$ ,
- ICON = 0 no optimal choice of the free parameters,  
 = 1 optimal choice of the free parameters for  $t = t_{\lfloor N/2 \rfloor}$ ,  
 = 2 optimal choice of the free parameters for  $t = t_k, k = 1(1)N$ ,
- IKOR = 0 no application of the 'Korrektur'-method,  
 = 1 application of the 'Korrektur'-method,
- CON by the choice of  $CON = vT$ , the free parameter  $v$  is determined in case of  $ICON = 0$ ,
- H matrix of dimension 6 by  $N$ , contains on return in the  
 1st row the approximation values for  $f(t_k), k = 1(1)n$ ,  
 2nd row work area,  
 3rd row the computed optimal parameter  $CON_{OPT} = v_{OPT} \cdot T$  for  $t = t_k, k = 1(1)N$ , ( $CON_{OPT} = 18$  if the truncation error (23) is zero,  $CON_{OPT} = 1$  if the discretization error (24) is zero or of very small absolute value),  
 4th row the code for the used acceleration method:  
 = 0 no acceleration of convergence,  
 = 1 MINIMAX,  
 = 2 EPAL,  
 = 4 CFM,  
 =  $P \geq 4$  EPAL, overflow occurred after  $P - 2$  iterations (NS1 =  $P - 2$  values of  $F(s)$  are used for the approximation of  $f(t)$ ); note: the output parameter on the 4th row of  $H$  may be different from the input parameter IKONV. The subroutine LAPIN always uses  
 (a) CFM if  $f_N(t)$  is monotonous in  $N$ ,  
 (b) MINIMAX if the application of EPAL falsifies the results,  
 (c) no acceleration method if only 1 or 2 stationary values of  $f_N(t)$  as a function of  $N$  are found,  
 5th row absolute error calculated by formula (33) if  $ICON = 2$  and  $ILAPIN = 1$ ; if  $ICON = 1$  the error estimation is valid only at  $t = t_{\lfloor N/2 \rfloor}$ ,  
 6th row contains a control number of up to 6 digits ( $n_1 n_2 n_3 n_4 n_5 n_6$ ), the digits refer to the used

auxiliary quantities, the 'Korrektur'-term  $f_{NS2}(2t_1 + t_0)$  and to  $f_{NS1}(t)$  as follows (see Table 2 for the definition of  $t_0$  and  $t_1$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} n_1 &\rightarrow f_{NS1}^1(t_0), & (\text{CON} = 20), \\ n_2 &\rightarrow f_{NS1}^2(t_0), & (\text{CON} = 18), \\ n_3 &\rightarrow f_{NS1}(2t_1 + t_0), \\ n_4 &\rightarrow f_{NS1}(4t_1 + t_0), \\ n_5 &\rightarrow f_{NS1}(8t_1 + t_0), \\ n_6 &= n_{61} + n_{62}, & n_{61} \rightarrow f_{NS1}(t_0), \quad n_{62} \rightarrow f_{NS2}(2t_1 + t_0). \end{aligned}$$

If one of the digits is zero the application of the  $\varepsilon$ -algorithm falsifies the results of the corresponding auxiliary quantity (MINIMAX is used). Otherwise the digits are equal to 1 (besides  $n_{62}$ , which is equal to 2).

Note:  $n_3 = 0$  always if IKOR = 1,  $n_4 = n_5 = 0$  always if IKOR = 0.

Whenever a zero in the control number indicates the falsification of the results, it is recommended to increase NS1 or NS2.

E matrix of dimension 3 by NS1, work area,

IER error parameter, control of input data:

= 0	no error,
= 1	TN < T1,
= 10	$N < 1$ ,
= 100	IMAN < 0 or IMAN > 1,
= 1000	ILAPIN < 1 or ILAPIN > 2,
= 10000	IKONV < 1 or IKONV > 2,
= 100000	NS1 < 1 or (NS2 < 1 and IKOR = 1) or (NS1 $\neq$ 60 and IMAN = 0),
= 1000000	ICON < 0 or ICON > 2 or (ICON = 2 and ILAPIN = 2),
= 10000000	IKOR < 1 or IKOR > 1,
= 100000000	CON $\leq$ 0.

E.g. IER = 11 means that 1 and 10 occurred,

IOUT output unit number.

#### A.4. Subroutines

LAPIN calls the subroutine LAPIN2 to calculate the Laplace-inversion with optimal parameters and in case of wrong input data the subroutine ERROR.

The subroutine F must be added by the user.

#### Acknowledgment

The authors wish to thank K. Mika for valuable suggestions and comments and for careful revision of the manuscript. We thank U. Funk and G. Hofemann for helpful assistance with the numerical calculations.

For making possible the stay at the Departamento de Informática of Pontificia Universidade Católica (PUC), Rio de Janeiro, the first author wishes to thank the director of the department, Prof. Carlos José Pereira de Lucena, the Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq), Gesellschaft für Mathematik und Datenverarbeitung Bonn (GMD), PUC Rio de Janeiro and KFA Jülich.

## References

- [1] P. Albrecht and G. Honig, Die numerische Inversion der Laplace-Transformierten, *Angew. Informatik* **8** (1977) 336–345.  
 [2] K.S. Crump, Numerical inversion of Laplace transforms using a Fourier series approximation, *J. ACM* **23** (1) (1976) 89–96.  
 [3] G. Doetsch, *Handbuch der Laplace-Transformation, Bd. I, II, III* (Birkhäuser, Basel, 1950).  
 [4] H. Dubner and J. Abate, Numerical inversion of Laplace transforms by relating them to the finite Fourier cosine transform, *J. ACM* **15** (1) (1968) 115–123.  
 [5] F. Durbin, Numerical inversion of Laplace transforms: an effective improvement of Dubner and Abate's method, *Comput. J.* **17** (4) (1973) 371–376.  
 [6] G. Honig, Zur numerischen Lösung partieller Differentialgleichungen mit Laplace-Transformation, Diss. Univ. Dortmund D290, Berichte der Kernforschungsanlage Jülich-Jül-1550, 1978.  
 [7] K. Kehr, G. Honig and D. Richter, Stochastic theory of spin depolarization of muons diffusing in the presence of traps, *Z. Phys.* **B 32**, (1978) 49–58.  
 [8] R.M. Simon, M.T. Stroot and G.H. Weiss, Numerical inversion of Laplace transforms with application to percentage labeled experiments, *Comput. Biomed. Rev.* **6** (1972) 596–607.  
 [9] F. Veillon, Quelques méthodes nouvelles pour le calcul numérique de la transformée inverse de Laplace, Th. Univ. de Grenoble, 1972.  
 [10] G. Warzee, Application de la transformée de Laplace et de la méthode des éléments finis à la résolution de l'équation de conduction thermique instationnaire, *C.R. Acad. Sci. Paris Sér.* **A278** (1974) 1265–1266.

## Subroutine LAPIN

```

      SUBROUTINE LAPIN(F, T1, TN, N, IMAN, ILAPIN, IKONV, NS1, NS2, ICON,
      *                IKOR, CON, H, E, IER, IOUT)
C
      DOUBLE PRECISION ABRN, ABSF, CON, CONOPT, CON1, CON2, DEL, E,
      *                FN, FNS1, FREAL, FIMAG, H, PI, RACC, RNSUM, RNSUMK,
      *                T, TA, TB, TK, TN, T0, T1, V1, V2, W
      INTEGER HMONO
      EXTERNAL F
      DIMENSION H(6, N), E(3, NS1)
      COMMON /CLAPIN/ TA, TB, T0, CONOPT, ABSF, LVAL, HMONO
C
C INITIALIZE ARRAY H
      DO 10 I=1, N
      DO 10 J=1, 6
      H(J, I) = 0.00
      10 CONTINUE
C
      IER = 0
      IF (TN.LT.T1) IER = 1
      IF (N.LT.1) IER = IER+10
      IF (IMAN.EQ.0) GO TO 100
      IF (IMAN.EQ.1) GO TO 110
      IER = IER+100
      GO TO 120
C
C PARAMETERS FOR IMAN = 0
      100 IF (NS1.NE.60) IER = IER+100000
      IF (IER.NE.0) GO TO 120
      ILAPIN = 1
      IKONV = 2
      ICON = 1
      IKOR = 0
      NS2 = 0
      GO TO 200
C
C IMAN = 1
      110 IF (ILAPIN.LT.1 .OR. ILAPIN.GT.2) IER = IER+1000
      IF (IKONV.LT.1 .OR. IKONV.GT.2) IER = IER+10000
      IF (NS1.LT.1 .OR. (NS2.LT.1 .AND. IKOR.EQ.1)) IER = IER+100000
      IF (ICON.LT.0 .OR. ICON.GT.2 .OR. (ICON.EQ.2 .AND. ILAPIN.EQ.2))
      * IER = IER+1000000
      IF (IKOR.LT.0 .OR. IKOR.GT.1) IER = IER+10000000
      IF (ICON.EQ.0 .AND. CON.LE.0.00) IER = IER+100000000
      200

```

```

C
  IF (IER.EQ.0) GO TO 200
120 CALL ERROR(IER, T1, TN, N, IMAN, ILAPIN, IKONV, NS1, NS2, ICON, IKOR,
  *      CON, IOUT)
  RETURN
C
200 PI = 4.D0*DATA(1.D0)
  CON1 = 20.D0
  CON2 = CON1-2.D0
  ABSF = 0.D0
C
  J3 = (3-ICON)/2+N*(ICON/2)
  TA = T1
  TB = TN
C
  DO 830 L3=1, J3
  LVAL = L3
  HMONO = 0
  KOR1 = IKOR
C
C COMPUTATION OF THE OPTIMAL PARAMETERS
210 IF (ICON-1) 215, 230, 220
215 JUMP = 0
  CALL LAPIN2(F, T1, TN, N, ILAPIN, IKONV, NS1, NS2, ICON, IKOR, CON, H, E, JUMP)
  GO TO 830
220 TA = T1+FLOAT(L3)*(TN-T1)/FLOAT(N+1)
  TB = TA
C
230 NH = N/2
  T = TA+(TB-TA)*FLOAT(NH)/FLOAT(N+1)
  TK = FLOAT(2-ILAPIN)*T+FLOAT(ILAPIN-1)*TB
C
C COMPUTATION OF THE TRUNCATION ERROR (RNSUM)
  T0 = T
  CON = CON1
  JUMP = 1
  CALL LAPIN2(F, T1, TN, N, ILAPIN, IKONV, NS1, NS2, ICON, IKOR, CON, H, E, JUMP)
240 FN = H(1, L3)
  FNS1 = E(1, NS1)
  CON = CON2
  JUMP = 2
  CALL LAPIN2(F, T1, TN, N, ILAPIN, IKONV, NS1, NS2, ICON, IKOR, CON, H, E, JUMP)
250 IF (FN.NE.H(1, L3).AND.FNS1.NE.E(1, NS1)) GO TO 255
  CONOPT = CON
  ABSF = 0.D0
  GO TO 320
255 RNSUM = TK*(FN-H(1, L3))/(DEXP(CON1)-DEXP(CON2))
  IF (ILAPIN.EQ.2) GO TO 260
C
C COMPUTATION OF THE ACCELERATION FACTOR (DEL)
  RACC = T*(FNS1-E(1, NS1))/(DEXP(CON1)-DEXP(CON2))
  DEL = RNSUM/RACC
C
260 IF (IKOR.EQ.1) GO TO 280
C
C OPTIMAL PARAMETERS (METHOD A)
  T0 = 2.D0*TK+T
  CON = CON1/4.D0
  JUMP = 3
  CALL LAPIN2(F, T1, TN, N, ILAPIN, IKONV, NS1, NS2, ICON, IKOR, CON, H, E, JUMP)
270 FN = H(1, L3)
  CONOPT = -TK/(2.D0*TK+T)*DLOG(DABS(RNSUM/(TK*FN)))
  GO TO 310
C
C OPTIMAL PARAMETERS FOR THE KORREKTUR METHOD (METHOD A)
280 T0 = 4.D0*TK+T
  CON = CON1/4.D0
  JUMP = 4
  CALL LAPIN2(F, T1, TN, N, ILAPIN, IKONV, NS1, NS2, ICON, IKOR, CON, H, E, JUMP)
290 FN = H(1, L3)
  T0 = 8.D0*TK+T
  JUMP = 5

```



```

      CALL LAPIN2(F,T1,TN,N,ILAPIN,IKONV,NS1,NS2,ICON,IKOR,CON,H,E,JUMP)
300 FN = FN-H(1,L3)
      CONOPT = -TK/(4.D0*TK+T)*DLOG(DABS(RNSUM/(TK*FN)))
C
C OPTIMAL PARAMETERS (METHOD B)
310 IF (ILAPIN.EQ.1) GO TO 315
      ABSF = DABS(DEXP(CONOPT)*RNSUM*2.D0/TK)
      GO TO 320
315 V1 = CON1/T
      V2 = CONOPT/T
      W = PI*FLOAT(NS1)/T
      CALL F(V2,W,FREAL,FIMAG)
      RNSUMK = RNSUM*FREAL
      CALL F(V1,W,FREAL,FIMAG)
      RNSUMK = RNSUMK/FREAL
      ABRN = (RNSUMK-RNSUM)/(V2-V1)
      CONOPT = -DLOG(DABS((ABRN/T+RNSUMK)/(T*FLOAT(IKOR*2+2)*FN)))/
      *      FLOAT(3+2*IKOR)
      V1 = V2
      V2 = CONOPT/T
      CALL F(V2,W,FREAL,FIMAG)
      RNSUMK = RNSUMK*FREAL
      CALL F(V1,W,FREAL,FIMAG)
      RNSUMK = RNSUMK/FREAL
      ABSF = DEXP(CONOPT)/T*DABS(RNSUMK)+
      *      DABS(DEXP(-2.D0*CONOPT)*FN*FLOAT(IKOR-1)
      *      +DEXP(-4.D0*CONOPT)*FN*FLOAT(IKOR))
C
320 IF (CONOPT.LE.0.D0) CONOPT = 1.D0
      JUMP = 6
      CALL LAPIN2(F,T1,TN,N,ILAPIN,IKONV,NS1,NS2,ICON,IKOR,CON,H,E,JUMP)
830 CONTINUE
      RETURN
      END

      SUBROUTINE LAPIN2(F,T1,TN,N,ILAPIN,IKONV,NS1,NS2,ICON,IKOR,CON,
      *      H,E,JUMP)
C
C LAPLACE-INVERSION WITH OPTIMAL PARAMETERS
C
      DOUBLE PRECISION A,ABSF,B,CON,CONOPT,DELTA,DIVI,E,E1,E2,E3,EINS,
      *      FAKTOR,FIMAG,FREAL,H,PI,PIT,PITE,RAL,SUIM,SURE,
      *      TA,TB,TE,TL,TM,TM1,TN,TT,T0,T1,X1,X2,X3,
      *      V,W,Y1,Y2,Y3
      INTEGER RICHT,RICHTA,HMONO
      EXTERNAL F
      DIMENSION H(6,N),E(3,NS1),E3(3)
      COMMON /CLAPIN/ TA,TB,T0,CONOPT,ABSF,L3,HMONO
C
      PI = 4.D0*DATAN(1.D0)
C
      IF (JUMP.EQ.0) GO TO 360
      IF (JUMP.LT.6) GO TO 370
C
      T0 = TA
      TT = TB
      I1 = L3
      J1 = (2-ICON)*N+(ICON-1)*L3
      CON = CONOPT
      KOR1 = IKOR
      GO TO 380
C
360 T0 = T1
      TT = TN
      I1 = 1
      J1 = N
      KOR1 = IKOR
      JUMP = 6
      GO TO 380

```

```

C
  370 KOR1 = 0
      TT = T0
      I1 = L3
      J1 = L3
C
  380 DELTA = (TT-T0)/FLOAT(N+1)
      NSUM = NS1
C
C COMPUTATION OF THE T-VALUES FROM T0,TT
  DO 805 K2=1,2
    IF (ILAPIN.EQ.1) GO TO 420
    TE = FLOAT(K2)*TT
    V = CON/TE
    CALL F(V,0.D0,FREAL,FIMAG)
    RAL = -0.5D0*FREAL
    PITE = PI/TE
C
  405 DO 410 L=1,NSUM
      W = FLOAT(L-1)*PITE
      CALL F(V,W,FREAL,FIMAG)
      E(2,L) = FREAL
      E(3,L) = FIMAG
  410 CONTINUE
C
  420 DO 800 K1=I1,J1
C
      TL = T0+FLOAT(K1)*DELTA
      IF (ILAPIN.EQ.2) GO TO 440
C
      IF (K2.EQ.2) TL = 3.D0*TL
      V = CON/TL
      FAKTOR = DEXP(V*TL)/TL
      CALL F(V,0.D0,FREAL,FIMAG)
      RAL = -0.5D0*FREAL
      PIT = PI/TL
      EINS = 1.D0
      SURE = 0.D0
C
C METHOD OF DURBIN
  425 DO 430 L=1,NSUM
      W = FLOAT(L-1)*PIT
      CALL F(V,W,FREAL,FIMAG)
      SURE = SURE+FREAL*EINS
      EINS = -EINS
      E(1,L) = FAKTOR*(RAL+SURE)
  430 CONTINUE
      GO TO 460
C
  440 IF (K2.EQ.2) TL = TL+TE
      FAKTOR = DEXP(V*TL)/TE
      SURE = 0.D0
      SUIM = 0.D0
      DO 450 L=1,NSUM
          W = FLOAT(L-1)*PITE
          SURE = SURE+E(2,L)*DCOS(W*TL)
          SUIM = SUIM+E(3,L)*DSIN(W*TL)
          E(1,L) = FAKTOR*(RAL+SURE-SUIM)
  450 CONTINUE
C
C SEARCH FOR STATIONARY VALUES
  460 NMAX = NSUM*2/3
      MONOTO = 0
      K = 0
      RICHTA = DSIGN(1.5D0,(E(1,NSUM)-E(1,NSUM-1)))
      DO 500 L=1,NMAX
          J = NSUM-L
          RICHT = DSIGN(1.5D0,(E(1,J)-E(1,J-1)))
          IF (RICHT.EQ.RICHTA) GO TO 500
          K = K+1
          E3(K) = E(1,J)
          RICHTA = RICHT
          IF (K.EQ.3) GO TO 510

```

```

500 CONTINUE
    IF (K.EQ.0) GO TO 700
    H(K2,K1) = E(1,NSUM)
    IF (K2.EQ.1) H(4,K1) = 0
    GO TO 790
510 KE = 2
    IF ((E3(KE)-E(1,J))*FLOAT(RICHTA).GT.0.D0) GO TO 560
    JMIN = NSUM/3
    JMAX = J-1
    DO 540 JJ=JMIN,JMAX
    J = J-1
    RICHT = DSIGN(1.5D0,(E(1,J)-E(1,J-1)))
    IF (RICHT.EQ.RICHTA) GO TO 540
    RICHTA = RICHT
    KE = 3-KE
    IF ((E3(KE)-E(1,J))*FLOAT(RICHTA).GT.0.D0) GO TO 560
540 CONTINUE
550 MONOTO = 1
    IF (IKONV.EQ.2) GO TO 630
C
C MINIMUM-MAXIMUM METHOD (MINIMAX)
560 H(K2,K1) = (E3(1)+E3(3))/4.D0+E3(2)/2.D0
    IF (K2.EQ.1) H(4,K1) = 1
    GO TO 790
C
C EPSILONALGORITHM (EPAL)
630 K = 0
    NSUMM1 = NSUM-1
    E2 = E(1,1)
    DO 660 L=1,NSUMM1
    E1 = E(1,1)
    TM = 0.D0
    LP1 = L+1
    DO 650 M=1,L
    MM = LP1-M
    TM1 = E(1,MM)
    DIVI = E(1,MM+1)-E(1,MM)
    IF (DABS(DIVI).GT.1.D-20) GO TO 640
    K = L
    GO TO 670
640 E(1,MM) = TM+1.D0/DIVI
    TM = TM1
650 CONTINUE
    E2 = E1
660 CONTINUE
C
670 IF (DABS(E1).GT.DABS(E2)) E1 = E2
    IF (DABS(E(1,1)).GT.DABS(E1)) E(1,1) = E1
    H(K2,K1) = E(1,1)
    IF (K2.EQ.1) H(4,K1) = K+2
    GO TO 790
C
C CURVE FITTING (CFM)
700 X1 = FLOAT(NSUM)-2.D0
    X2 = FLOAT(NSUM)-1.D0
    X3 = FLOAT(NSUM)-0.D0
    Y1 = E(1,NSUM-2)
    Y2 = E(1,NSUM-1)
    Y3 = E(1,NSUM)
    B = ((Y3-Y1)*X3*X3*(X1+X2)/(X1-X3)
    * -(Y2-Y1)*X2*X2*(X1+X3)/(X1-X2))/(X3-X2)
    A = ((Y2-Y1)-B*(X1-X2)/(X1*X2))*(X2*X2*X1*X1)/(X1*X1-X2*X2)
    H(K2,K1) = Y1-(A/X1+B)/X1
    MONOTO = 1
    IF (K2.EQ.1) H(4,K1) = 3
C
C
790 H(3,K1) = CON
    H(5,K1) = ABSF
    HMONO = HMONO+K2*MONOTO*10**(6-JUMP)
    IF (JUMP.LT.6) GO TO 800
    H(6,K1) = FLOAT((2-K2)*HMONO) +

```

```

*          FLOAT(K2-1)*(FLOAT(2*MONOTO)+H(6,K1))
HMONO = HMONO/10*10
C
800 CONTINUE
  IF (KOR1.EQ.0) RETURN
  IF (K2.EQ.2) GO TO 810
  NSUM = NS2
805 CONTINUE
C
C KORREKTUR METHOD
810 FAKTOR = -DEXP(-2.D0*CON)
  DO 820 K=I1,J1
    H(1,K) = H(1,K)+FAKTOR*H(2,K)
820 CONTINUE
C
  RETURN
  END

SUBROUTINE ERROR( IER, T1, TN, N, IMAN, ILAPIN, IKONV, NS1, NS2, ICON, IKOR,
*                CON, IOUT)

DOUBLE PRECISION T1, TN, CON

  WRITE(IOUT, 1) IER, T1, TN, N, IMAN, ILAPIN, IKONV, NS1, NS2, ICON, IKOR, CON
1 FORMAT(///14H *** ERROR *** ,8X,5HIER = ,I12//
* 10H T1      * ,D10.3,18X,12H1 * TN < T1/
* 10H TN      * ,D10.3/
* 10H N       * ,I10,17X,11H10 * N < 1/
* 10H IMAN    * ,I10,16X,29H100 * IMAN < 0 OR IMAN > 1/
* 10H ILAPIN  * ,I10,15X,34H1000 * ILAPIN < 1 OR ILAPIN > 2/
* 10H IKONV   * ,I10,14X,33H100000 * IKONV < 1 OR IKONV > 2/
* 10H NS1     * ,I10,13X,38H1000000 * NS1 < 1 OR (NS2 < 1 AND
*           * 41HIKOR = 1) OR (NS1 <> 60 AND IMAN = 0)/
* 10H NS2     * ,I10/
* 10H ICON    * ,I10,12X,36H10000000 * ICON < 0 OR ICON > 2 OR,
*           * 29H (ICON = 2 AND ILAPIN = 2)/
* 10H IKOR    * ,I10,11X,34H100000000 * IKOR < 0 OR IKOR > 1/
* 10H CON     * ,D10.3,10X,21H1000000000 * CON <= 0//)
  RETURN
  END

```