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ON INVERSION OF LAPLACE TRANSFORM (I)

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The aim of this note is to show how a complex inversion theorem may be deduced from the general Post-Widder inversion theorem.

1. We denote by  $R$  and  $C$  respectively the real and complex number fields and by  $R^+$  the set of all positive numbers. Further, if  $M_1, M_2$  are two arbitrary sets, then  $M_1 \rightarrow M_2$  will denote the set of all mappings of the set  $M_1$  into the set  $M_2$ .

2. **Lemma.** For every  $\alpha \geq 0$  and  $r \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$  such that  $r > \alpha$ , we have

$$\left(\frac{r}{r-\alpha}\right)^r \leq e^{(r/r-\alpha)\alpha} = e^\alpha e^{\alpha^2/(r-\alpha)}.$$

Proof. Under our assumptions we have

$$\begin{aligned} \log\left(\frac{r}{r-\alpha}\right)^r &= \log\left(\frac{1}{1-\frac{\alpha}{r}}\right)^r = -r \log\left(1-\frac{\alpha}{r}\right) = r \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} \left(\frac{\alpha}{r}\right)^k \leq \\ &\leq r \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\alpha}{r}\right)^k = r \frac{\alpha}{r} \frac{1}{1-\frac{\alpha}{r}} = \alpha \frac{r}{r-\alpha} = \alpha + \frac{\alpha^2}{r-\alpha} \end{aligned}$$

and our result follows.

3. **Lemma.** For every  $z \in C$ ,  $(1+z/q)^q \rightarrow e^z (q \rightarrow \infty)$ .

**Proof.** According to the binomial theorem, we can write

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1) \quad \left(1 + \frac{z}{q}\right)^q &= \sum_{k=0}^q \binom{q}{k} \frac{z^k}{q^k} = 1 + z + \sum_{k=2}^q \frac{q(q-1)\dots(q-k+1)}{k!} \frac{z^k}{q^k} = \\
 &= 1 + z + \sum_{k=2}^q \frac{q(q-1)\dots(q-k+1)}{q^k} \frac{z^k}{k!} = \\
 &= 1 + z + \sum_{k=2}^q \left(1 - \frac{1}{q}\right) \left(1 - \frac{2}{q}\right) \dots \left(1 - \frac{k-1}{q}\right) \frac{z^k}{k!}
 \end{aligned}$$

for every  $q \in \{2, 3, \dots\}$ .

Let now  $z \in C$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then there exists a  $k_0 \in \{2, 3, \dots\}$  such that

$$(2) \quad \sum_{k=k_0+1}^{\infty} \frac{|z|^k}{k!} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

It follows from (2) that

$$(3) \quad \left| e^z - \sum_{k=0}^{k_0} \frac{z^k}{k!} \right| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$

Further by (1) and (2),

$$\begin{aligned}
 (4) \quad \left| \left(1 + \frac{z}{q}\right)^q - \left[ 1 + z + \sum_{k=2}^{k_0} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q}\right) \left(1 - \frac{2}{q}\right) \dots \left(1 - \frac{k-1}{q}\right) \frac{z^k}{k!} \right] \right| &= \\
 &= \left| \sum_{k=k_0+1}^q \left(1 - \frac{1}{q}\right) \dots \left(1 - \frac{k-1}{q}\right) \frac{z^k}{k!} \right| \leq \sum_{k=k_0+1}^q \frac{|z|^k}{k!} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

for every  $q \geq k_0 + 1$ .

Finally it is easy to see that there exists a  $q_0 \in \{k_0 + 1, k_0 + 2, \dots\}$  such that

$$(5) \quad \left| \sum_{k=0}^{k_0} \frac{z^k}{k!} - \left[ 1 + z + \sum_{k=2}^{k_0} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q}\right) \left(1 - \frac{2}{q}\right) \dots \left(1 - \frac{k-1}{q}\right) \frac{z^k}{k!} \right] \right| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}$$

for every  $q \geq q_0$ .

Now we have immediately from (3), (4) and (5)

$$\left| e^z - \left(1 + \frac{z}{q}\right)^q \right| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} + \frac{\varepsilon}{3} = \varepsilon$$

for every  $q \geq q_0$  and this gives the assertion.

**4. Theorem (Post-Widder).** Let  $f \in R^+ \rightarrow E$  and let  $M, \omega$  be two nonnegative constants. If

- (α) the function  $f$  is measurable over  $R^+$ ,  
 (β)  $|f(t)| \leq Me^{\omega t}$  for almost all  $t \in R^+$ , then

(a) 
$$\int_0^\infty e^{-((p+1)/t)\tau} \tau^p f(\tau) d\tau \text{ exists for every } t \in R^+ \text{ and } p+1 > \omega t,$$

(b) 
$$\left| \frac{1}{p!} \left( \frac{p+1}{t} \right)^{p+1} \int_0^\infty e^{-(p+1)/t \tau} \tau^p f(\tau) d\tau \right| \leq Me^{\omega t} e^{\omega^2 t^2 / (p+1 - \omega t)}$$

for every  $t \in R^+$  and  $p+1 > \omega t$ ,

(c) 
$$\frac{1}{p!} \left( \frac{p+1}{t} \right)^{p+1} \int_0^\infty e^{-((p+1)/t)\tau} \tau^p f(\tau) d\tau \rightarrow f(t) \quad (p \rightarrow \infty, p+1 > \omega t)$$

for almost all  $t \in R^+$ .

**5. Lemma.** Let  $\alpha$  be a nonnegative constant and  $J \in \{z : \operatorname{Re} z \geq \alpha\} \rightarrow C$ . If

(α)  $J$  is continuous on  $\{z : \operatorname{Re} z \geq \alpha\}$ ,

(β)  $J$  is analytic on  $\{z : \operatorname{Re} z > \alpha\}$ ,

(γ)  $J(\lambda) \rightarrow 0$  ( $\lambda \geq \alpha, \lambda \rightarrow \infty$ ),

(δ) there exist a constant  $K$  and a number  $k \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$  so that for every  $\operatorname{Re} z \geq \alpha$ , we have  $|J(z)| \leq K(1 + |z|)^k$ ,

(ε) 
$$\int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{|J(\alpha + i\beta)|}{1 + |\beta|} d\beta < \infty,$$

then for every  $\lambda > \alpha$  and  $p \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$ ,

$$\frac{d^p}{d\lambda^p} J(\lambda) = (-1)^p \frac{p!}{2\pi i} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{J(\alpha + i\beta)}{(\lambda - \alpha - i\beta)^{p+1}} d\beta.$$

**Proof.** Let us first fix a  $\lambda > \alpha$ .

Moreover, we choose fixed numbers  $K, k$  so that the assumption (δ) holds.

By virtue of Cauchy's integral theorem, we obtain from (α), (β) that

(1) 
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2\pi}{p!} J^{(p)}(\lambda) &= - \int_{-N}^N \frac{1}{(\alpha + i\beta - \lambda)^{p+1}} J(\alpha + i\beta) d\beta + \\ &+ \int_{-N}^N \frac{1}{(\alpha + 2N + i\beta - \lambda)^{p+1}} J(\alpha + 2N + i\beta) d\beta - \\ &- i \int_0^{2N} \frac{1}{(\alpha + \eta + iN - \lambda)^{p+1}} J(\alpha + \eta + iN) d\eta + \\ &+ i \int_0^{2N} \frac{1}{(\alpha + \eta - iN - \lambda)^{p+1}} J(\alpha + \eta - iN) d\eta \end{aligned}$$

for every  $p \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$  and  $N > \frac{1}{2}\lambda$ .

Using (δ), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2) \quad & \left| \int_{-N}^N \frac{1}{(\alpha + 2N + i\beta - \lambda)^{p+1}} J(\alpha + 2N + i\beta) d\beta \right| \leq \\
 & = \int_{-N}^N \frac{1}{((\lambda - \alpha + 2N)^2 + \beta^2)^{(p+1)/2}} [1 + ((\alpha + 2N)^2 + \beta^2)^{1/2}]^k d\beta = \\
 & = \int_{-N}^N \frac{1}{(\lambda - \alpha + 2N)^{p+1}} [1 + ((\alpha + 2N)^2 + N^2)^{1/2}]^k = \\
 & = \frac{2N}{(\lambda - \alpha + 2N)^{p+1}} [1 + ((\alpha + 2N)^2 + N^2)^{1/2}]^k, \\
 & \left| \int_0^{2N} \frac{1}{(\alpha + \eta + iN - \lambda)^{p+1}} J(\alpha + \eta + iN) d\eta \right| \leq \\
 & \leq \int_0^{2N} \frac{1}{((\lambda + \eta - \alpha)^2 + N^2)^{(p+1)/2}} [1 + (\alpha^2 + N^2)^{1/2}]^k d\eta \leq \\
 & \leq \int_0^{2N} \frac{1}{N^{p+1}} [1 + (\alpha^2 + N^2)^{1/2}]^k \leq \frac{2}{N^p} [1 + (\alpha^2 + N^2)^{1/2}]^k, \\
 & \int_0^{2N} \frac{1}{(\alpha + \eta + iN - \lambda)^{p+1}} J(\alpha + \eta - iN) d\eta \leq \frac{2}{N^p} [1 + (\alpha^2 + N^2)^{1/2}]^k
 \end{aligned}$$

for every  $p \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$  and  $N > \frac{1}{2}\lambda$ .

Letting  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , we see from (2) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3) \quad & \int_{-N}^N \frac{1}{(\alpha + 2N + i\beta - \lambda)^{p+1}} J(\alpha + 2N + i\beta) d\beta \rightarrow_{N \rightarrow \infty} 0, \\
 & \int_0^{2N} \frac{1}{(\alpha + \eta + iN - \lambda)^{p+1}} J(\alpha + \eta + iN) d\eta \rightarrow_{N \rightarrow \infty} 0, \\
 & \int_0^{2N} \frac{1}{(\alpha + \eta - iN - \lambda)^{p+1}} J(\alpha + \eta - iN) d\eta \rightarrow_{N \rightarrow \infty} 0
 \end{aligned}$$

for every  $p \in \{k + 1, k + 2, \dots\}$ .

Now we conclude from (1) and (3) by means of (ε) that

$$(4) \quad J^{(p)}(\lambda) = -\frac{p!}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{J(\alpha + i\beta)}{(\alpha + i\beta - \lambda)^{p+1}} d\beta$$

for every  $\lambda > \alpha$  and  $p \in \{k + 1, k + 2, \dots\}$ .

On the other hand, let us define, on the basis of ( $\varepsilon$ )

$$J_{\alpha}(\lambda) = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{J(\alpha + i\beta)}{(\alpha + i\beta - \lambda)} d\beta \quad \text{for every } \lambda > \alpha.$$

It is easy to verify that

(6) the function  $J_0$  is infinitely differentiable on  $(\alpha, \infty)$ ,

$$(7) \quad J_0^{(p)}(\lambda) = -\frac{p!}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{J(\alpha + i\beta)}{(\alpha + i\beta - \lambda)^{p+1}} d\beta$$

for every  $\lambda > \alpha$  and  $p \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$ ,

$$(8) \quad J_0(\lambda) \rightarrow 0 \quad (\lambda > \alpha, \lambda \rightarrow \infty).$$

By (4)–(7),

$$(9) \quad J^{(k+1)}(\lambda) = J_0^{(k+1)}(\lambda)$$

for every  $\lambda > \alpha$ . Consequently, by (9)

$$(10) \quad J - J_0 \quad \text{is a polynomial.}$$

Taking ( $\gamma$ ) and (8) into account, we see that

$$(11) \quad J(\lambda) - J_0(\lambda) \rightarrow 0 \quad (\lambda > \alpha, \lambda \rightarrow \infty).$$

Hence (10) and (11) imply  $J = J_0$  and the conclusion of Lemma 5 follows immediately from (7).

**6. Theorem.** Let  $f \in R^+ \rightarrow C$  and  $\alpha > 0$ . If

( $\alpha$ ) the function  $f$  is measurable,

( $\beta$ ) there exist two nonnegative constants  $M, \omega$  so that  $\omega < \alpha$  and  $|f(t)| \leq Me^{\omega t}$  for almost all  $t \in R^+$ ,

$$(7) \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(\alpha+i\beta)\tau} f(\tau) d\tau \right| d\beta < \infty,$$

then

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{(\alpha+i\beta)t} \left( \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(\alpha+i\beta)\tau} f(\tau) d\tau \right) d\beta.$$

for almost all  $t \in R^+$ .

**Proof.** Let us first fix the constants  $M, \omega$  so that the assumption ( $\beta$ ) holds.

Further let us define a function  $F \in (\omega, \infty) \rightarrow C$  by

$$(1) \quad F(\lambda) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\lambda\tau} f(\tau) d\tau \quad \text{for } \lambda > \omega.$$

By Theorem 4 we have

$$(2) \quad \frac{(-1)^p}{p!} \left( \frac{p+1}{t} \right)^{p+1} F^{(p)} \left( \frac{p+1}{t} \right) \rightarrow f(t) \quad (p \rightarrow \infty, p+1 > \alpha t)$$

for almost all  $t \in R^+$ .

On the other hand, let  $J$  be the function defined by

$$(3) \quad J(z) = \int_0^\infty e^{-z\tau} f(\tau) d\tau$$

for every  $\operatorname{Re} z \geq \alpha$ .

It is easy to deduce from our assumptions that

(4) the function  $J$  has the properties 5 ( $\alpha$ )–(ε).

Hence by (4), we obtain from Lemma 5 that

$$(5) \quad J^{(p)}(\lambda) = (-1)^p \frac{p!}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{J(\alpha + i\beta)}{(\lambda - \alpha - i\beta)^{p+1}} d\beta$$

for every  $\lambda > \alpha$  and  $p \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$ .

Now it follows from (1), (3) and (5) that

$$(6) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{(-1)^p}{p!} \left( \frac{p+1}{t} \right)^{p+1} F^{(p)} \left( \frac{p+1}{t} \right) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{\left( \frac{p+1}{t} \right)^{p+1}}{\left( \frac{p+1}{t} - \alpha - i\beta \right)^{p+1}} J(\alpha + i\beta) d\beta = \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{1}{\left( 1 - \frac{(\alpha + i\beta)t}{p+1} \right)^{p+1}} J(\alpha + i\beta) d\beta \end{aligned}$$

for every  $t \in R^+$  and  $p+1 > \alpha t$ .

By Lemma 2 we see that

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} \left| \frac{1}{\left( 1 - \frac{(\alpha + i\beta)t}{p+1} \right)^{p+1}} \right| &= \frac{1}{\left[ \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha t}{p+1} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\beta t}{p+1} \right)^2 \right]^{(p+1)/2}} \leq \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\left( 1 - \frac{\alpha t}{p+1} \right)^{p+1}} \leq e^{\alpha t} e^{\alpha t / (p+1 - \alpha t)} \end{aligned}$$

for every  $t \in R^+$  and  $p+1 > \alpha t$ .

By Lemma 3,

$$(8) \quad \frac{1}{\left(1 - \frac{(\alpha + i\beta)t}{p+1}\right)^{p+1}} \rightarrow e^{(\alpha+i\beta)t} \quad (p \rightarrow \infty, p+1 > \alpha t).$$

Now we get from (6)–(8)

$$(9) \quad \frac{(-1)^p}{p!} \left(\frac{p+1}{t}\right)^{p+1} F^{(p)}\left(\frac{p+1}{t}\right) \rightarrow \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{(\alpha+i\beta)t} J(\alpha+i\beta) d\beta$$

$$(p \rightarrow \infty, p+1 > \alpha t)$$

for every  $t \in R^+$ .

We see from (2) and (9) that the assertion of our theorem is fulfilled and this completes the proof.

**Note.** In the continuation of this paper, we shall study different complex inversion formulas for the Laplace transform as relatively simple consequences of Theorem 6 from a new unified point of view.

#### References

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