

→ A REVIEW OF THE METHOD OF PARTIAL FRACTIONS

Decompose  $\frac{3x-1}{x^2-1}$  into Partial Fractions.

(for use w/  
Laplace  
Transform)

I.  $\frac{3x-1}{x^2-1} = \frac{3x-1}{(x+1)(x-1)} = \frac{A}{x+1} + \frac{B}{x-1}$

II. Now clear the fractions,

$$3x-1 = A(x-1) + B(x+1)$$

III. Use  $x = -1$ ,

$$3(-1)-1 = A(-1-1) + 0$$

$$-4 = -2A$$

$$\underline{A = 2}$$

Now use  $x = +1$

$$3(1)-1 = 0 + B(1+1)$$

$$2 = 2B$$

$$\underline{B = 1}$$

IV. So,  $\frac{3x-1}{x^2-1} = \frac{2}{x+1} + \frac{1}{x-1}$

15.11

Decompose  $\frac{1}{(x+1)(x^2+1)}$  into Partial Fractions.

I. We associate  $\frac{A}{x+1}$  with the linear factor  $(x+1)$ .

We associate  $\frac{Bx+C}{x^2+1}$  to the quadratic factor  $x^2+1$ .

II. Then,  $\frac{1}{(x+1)(x^2+1)} = \frac{A}{x+1} + \frac{Bx+C}{x^2+1}$

III. Clear the fractions.

$$1 = \frac{A(x+1)(x^2+1)}{(x+1)} + \frac{(Bx+C)(x+1)(x^2+1)}{(x^2+1)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= A(x^2+1) + (Bx+C)(x+1) \\ &= Ax^2 + A + Bx^2 + Bx + Cx + C \\ &= x^2(A+B) + x(B+C) + (A+C) \end{aligned}$$

IV. Equate the coefficients of like powers of  $x$ .

$$\begin{cases} A+B=0 \\ B+C=0 \\ A+C=1, \text{ and solve.} \end{cases}$$

$$A = -B$$

$$B = -C$$

$$A = 1 - C = -B = C$$

$$1 - C = C$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}, \quad C = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$B = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$A = \frac{1}{2}$$

V.  $\frac{1}{(x+1)(x^2+1)} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{x+1} + \frac{-\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}}{x^2+1}$

15.62 Decompose

$\frac{1}{(x^2+1)(x^2+4x+8)}$  into partial fractions.

I. Associate  $\frac{Ax+B}{x^2+1}$  with  $(x^2+1)$ , and

$\frac{Cx+D}{x^2+4x+8}$  with  $(x^2+4x+8)$

II. 
$$\frac{1}{(x^2+1)(x^2+4x+8)} = \frac{Ax+B}{x^2+1} + \frac{Cx+D}{x^2+4x+8}$$

III. Clear the fractions.

$$1 = (Ax+B)(x^2+4x+8) + (Cx+D)(x^2+1)$$

$$= Ax^3 + 4Ax^2 + 8Ax + Bx^2 + 4Bx + 8B + Cx^3 + Dx^2 + Cx + D$$

$$= Ax^3 + Cx^3 + 4Ax^2 + Bx^2 + Dx^2 + 8Ax + 4Bx + Cx + 8B + D$$

$$= x^3(A+C) + x^2(4A+B+D) + x(8A+4B+C) + (8B+D)$$

IV. Equate the coefficients of like powers of  $x$ ,

$$\begin{cases} A+C=0 \\ 4A+B+D=0 \\ 8A+4B+C=0 \\ 8B+D=1 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} A+0B+C+0D=0 \\ 4A+B+0C+D=0 \\ 8A+4B+C+0D=0 \\ 0A+8B+0C+D=1 \end{cases}$$

and solve.

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 8 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 6 \\ 8 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

... after many row operations (in Maple),

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -4/65 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 7/65 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 4/65 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 9/65 \end{array} \right]$$

V. So,

$$\frac{1}{(x^2+1)(x^2+4x+8)} = \frac{-\frac{4}{65}x + \frac{7}{65}}{x^2+1} + \frac{\frac{4}{65}x + \frac{9}{65}}{x^2+4x+8}$$

**15.14** Decompose  $\frac{8}{x^3(x^2-x-2)}$  into partial fractions

$$(x^2-x-2) = (x+1)(x-2)$$

$$x^3 = (x-0)^3$$

I. We associate  $\frac{A}{x} + \frac{B}{x^2} + \frac{C}{x^3}$  with  $(x-0)^3$

$$\frac{D}{x-2} + \frac{E}{x+1} \text{ with } (x+1)(x-2)$$

$$\text{II. Then } \frac{8}{x^3(x^2-x-2)} = \frac{A}{x} + \frac{B}{x^2} + \frac{C}{x^3} + \frac{D}{x-2} + \frac{E}{x+1}$$

III. Clear out the fractions.

$$\begin{aligned} 8 &= A\lambda^2(\lambda-2)(\lambda+1) \\ &+ B\lambda(\lambda-2)(\lambda+1) \\ &+ C(\lambda-2)(\lambda+1) \\ &+ D\lambda^3(\lambda+1) \\ &+ E\lambda^3(\lambda-2) \end{aligned}$$

IV. Set  $\lambda = -1, 2,$  and  $0$  consecutively.

$$\lambda = -1; \quad 8 = A(-3)(0) + (-B)(-3)(0) + C(-3)(0) + D(0) - E(-3)$$

$$8 = 3E$$

$$E = \frac{8}{3}$$

$$\lambda = 2; \quad 8 = 0 + 0 + 0 + 2^3 D(3) + 0$$

$$8 = 24D$$

$$D = \frac{8}{24} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\lambda = 0; \quad 8 = 0 + 0 + C(-2)(1) + 0 + 0$$

$$8 = -2C$$

$$C = -\frac{8}{2} = -4$$

Now set  $\lambda = 1, -2$  and simplify.

We get,  $A + B = -1$  and

$$2A - B = -8$$

$$\text{where } A = -3 \text{ \& } B = 2$$

V. So,

$$\frac{8}{\lambda^2(\lambda^2 - \lambda - 2)} = -\frac{3}{\lambda} + \frac{2}{\lambda^2} - \frac{4}{\lambda - 2} + \frac{(1/3)}{\lambda - 2} + \frac{(8/3)}{\lambda + 1}$$