

## Method of Partial Fractions

Problem: compute  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{Y(s)\}$ , where

$$Y(s) = \frac{s}{(s+1)(s^2+1)}$$

We seek  $a, b, c$ , such that

$$Y(s) = \frac{a}{s+1} + \frac{bs+c}{s^2+1} \quad (\text{need } bs+c \text{ so that } \deg(\text{num}) = \deg(\text{den}) - 1)$$

► Find  $a$ : multiply by  $s+1$  to isolate  $a$

$$(s+1)Y(s) = \frac{s}{s^2+1} = a + \frac{(s+1)(as+b)}{(s^2+1)}$$

— now let  $s = -1$  to “kill” the second term on the RHS:

$$a = (s+1)Y(s) \Big|_{s=-1} = -\frac{1}{2}$$