

Laplace transform of convolution

 ${\bf Canonical\ name} \quad {\bf Laplace Transform Of Convolution}$

Date of creation 2013-03-22 18:24:04 Last modified on 2013-03-22 18:24:04

Owner pahio (2872) Last modified by pahio (2872)

Numerical id 6

Author pahio (2872) Entry type Theorem Classification msc 26A42 Classification msc 44A10

Synonym convolution property of Laplace transform

Related topic Convolution

Theorem. If

$$\mathcal{L}{f_1(t)} = F_1(s)$$
 and $\mathcal{L}{f_2(t)} = F_2(s)$,

then

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\int_0^t f_1(\tau)f_2(t-\tau)\,d\tau\right\} = F_1(s)F_2(s).$$

Proof. According to the definition of Laplace transform, one has

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\int_0^t f_1(\tau)f_2(t-\tau)\,d\tau\right\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st}\left(\int_0^t f_1(\tau)f_2(t-\tau)\,d\tau\right)dt,$$

where the right hand side is a double integral over the angular region bounded by the lines $\tau=0$ and $\tau=t$ in the first quadrant of the $t\tau$ -plane. Changing the of integration, we write

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\int_0^t f_1(\tau)f_2(t-\tau)\,d\tau\right\} = \int_0^\infty \left(f_1(\tau)\int_\tau^\infty e^{-st}f_2(t-\tau)\,dt\right)d\tau.$$

Making in the inner integral the substitution $t - \tau := u$, we obtain

$$\int_{\tau}^{\infty} e^{-st} f_2(t-\tau) dt = \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-(u+\tau)s} f_2(u) du = e^{-\tau s} \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-su} f_2(u) du = e^{-\tau s} F_2(s),$$

whence

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{ \int_{0}^{t} f_{1}(\tau) f_{2}(t-\tau) d\tau \right\} = \int_{0}^{\infty} f_{1}(\tau) e^{-\tau s} F_{2}(s) d\tau = F_{2}(s) \int_{0}^{\infty} f_{1}(\tau) e^{-\tau s} d\tau = F_{1}(s) F_{2}(s),$$
Q.E.D.