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using convolution to find Laplace transform

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We start from the (see the table of Laplace transforms)

$$e^{\alpha t} \curvearrowright \frac{1}{s-\alpha}, \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} \curvearrowright \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{s}} \quad (s > \alpha) \quad (1)$$

where the curved \curvearrowright from the Laplace-transformed functions to the original functions. Setting $\alpha = a^2$ and dividing by $\sqrt{\pi}$ in (1), the convolution property of Laplace transform yields

$$\frac{1}{(s-a^2)\sqrt{s}} \curvearrowright e^{a^2 t} * \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi t}} = \int_0^t e^{a^2(t-u)} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi u}} du.$$

The <http://planetmath.org/ChangeOfVariableInDefiniteIntegralsubstitution> $a^2 u = x^2$ then gives

$$\frac{1}{(s-a^2)\sqrt{s}} \curvearrowright \frac{e^{a^2 t}}{\sqrt{\pi i}} \int_0^{a\sqrt{t}} e^{-x^2} \frac{a}{x} \frac{2x}{a^2} dx = \frac{e^{a^2 t}}{a} \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{a\sqrt{t}} e^{-x^2} dx = \frac{e^{a^2 t}}{a} \operatorname{erf} a\sqrt{t}.$$

Thus we may write the formula

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{a^2 t} \operatorname{erf} a\sqrt{t}\} = \frac{a}{(s-a^2)\sqrt{s}} \quad (s > a^2). \quad (2)$$

Moreover, we obtain

$$\frac{1}{(\sqrt{s}+a)\sqrt{s}} = \frac{\sqrt{s}-a}{(s-a^2)\sqrt{s}} = \frac{1}{s-a^2} - \frac{a}{(s-a^2)\sqrt{s}} \curvearrowright e^{a^2 t} - e^{a^2 t} \operatorname{erf} a\sqrt{t} = e^{a^2 t} (1 - \operatorname{erf} a\sqrt{t}),$$

whence we have the other formula

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{a^2 t} \operatorname{erfc} a\sqrt{t}\} = \frac{1}{(a+\sqrt{s})\sqrt{s}}. \quad (3)$$

0.1 An improper integral

One can utilise the formula (3) for evaluating the improper integral

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-x^2}}{a^2+x^2} dx.$$

We have

$$e^{-tx^2} \curvearrowright \frac{1}{s+x^2}$$

(see the <http://planetmath.org/TableOfLaplaceTransformstable> of Laplace transforms). Dividing this by a^2+x^2 and integrating from 0 to ∞ , we can continue as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-tx^2}}{a^2+x^2} dx &\curvearrowright \int_0^\infty \frac{dx}{(a^2+x^2)(s+x^2)} = \frac{1}{s-a^2} \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{1}{a^2+x^2} - \frac{1}{s+x^2} \right) dx \\
&= \frac{1}{s-a^2} \int_{x=0}^\infty \left(\frac{1}{a} \arctan \frac{x}{a} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}} \arctan \frac{x}{\sqrt{s}} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{s-a^2} \cdot \frac{\pi}{2} \left(\frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}} \right) = \frac{\pi}{2a} \cdot \frac{1}{(a+\sqrt{s})\sqrt{s}} \\
&\curvearrowright \frac{\pi}{2a} e^{a^2 t} \operatorname{erfc} a\sqrt{t}
\end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-tx^2}}{a^2+x^2} dx = \frac{\pi}{2a} e^{a^2 t} \operatorname{erfc} a\sqrt{t},$$

and especially

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-x^2}}{a^2+x^2} dx = \frac{\pi}{2a} e^{a^2} \operatorname{erfc} a.$$