

Exercise 1: Calculate $L(f(t))$ with $f(t) = \begin{cases} (t-1)^2 & \text{if } t > 1, \\ 0 & \text{if } 0 \leq t \leq 1. \end{cases}$

Solution:

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} (t-1)^2 & \text{if } t > 1, \\ 0 & \text{if } 0 \leq t \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

Calculate its Laplace transform by definition:

$$L\{f(t)\} = F(x) = \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-xt} f(t) dt = \int_1^{+\infty} e^{-xt} (t-1)^2 dt; \text{ where } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Let's use a change of variables: $u = t - 1$, i.e., $du = dt$:

$$L\{f(t)\} = F(x) = \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-x(u+1)} u^2 du = e^{-x} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-xu} u^2 du = e^{-x} \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-xt} t^2 dt;$$

$$\text{i.e., } L\{f(t)\} = e^{-x} \cdot L\{t^2\} = e^{-x} \cdot \frac{2}{x^3}, x > 0.$$

Exercise 2: Determine the Laplace transforms of the following functions, indicating in each case the values of x for which these Laplace transforms exist.

1. $f_1(t) = 5t - 3$;
2. $f_2(t) = 3t^4 + 4e^{3t} - 2\sin(5t) + 3\cosh(2t)$;
3. $f_3(t) = t^3 e^{-3t}$;
4. $f_4(t) = 2e^{3t} \sin(t)$;
5. $f_5(t) = \frac{\cos(at) - \cos(bt)}{t}$;
6. $f_6(t) = \int_0^t \frac{\cos(au) - \cos(bu)}{u} du$.

Solution:

1. $f_1(t) = 5t - 3$, using linearity: $F_1(x) = \mathcal{L}\{5t - 3\} = 5\mathcal{L}\{t\} - 3\mathcal{L}\{1\}$. Since $\mathcal{L}\{t\} = \frac{1}{x^2}, x > 0$ and $\mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{x}, x > 0$. So, $F_1(x) = \mathcal{L}\{5t - 3\} = \frac{5}{x^2} - \frac{3}{x}, x > 0$.

2. $f_2(t) = 3t^4 + 4e^{3t} - 2\sin(5t) + 3\cosh(2t)$, using linearity:

$$F_2(x) = \mathcal{L}\{3t^4\} + 4\mathcal{L}\{e^{3t}\} - 2\mathcal{L}\{\sin(5t)\} + 3\mathcal{L}\{\cosh(2t)\}.$$

$$\text{Since } \mathcal{L}\{t^4\} = \frac{4!}{x^5}, \mathcal{L}\{e^{3t}\} = \frac{1}{x-3}, \mathcal{L}\{\sin(5t)\} = \frac{5}{x^2+25}, \text{ and } \mathcal{L}\{\cosh(2t)\} = \frac{x}{x^2-4}.$$

So,

$$F_2(x) = \frac{3 \cdot 4!}{x^5} + \frac{4}{x-3} - \frac{10}{x^2+25} + \frac{3x}{x^2-4}, x > 3.$$

3) $f_3(t) = t^3 e^{-3t}$, let $g(t) = t^3$ and use the translation:

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{-3t}t^3\} = G(x+3), \quad \forall x > -3.$$

Since $\mathcal{L}\{t^3\} = \frac{3!}{x^4}$, $\forall x > 0$; then $F_3(x) = \mathcal{L}\{e^{-3t}t^3\} = \frac{3!}{(x+3)^4}$, $\forall x > -3$.

4) $f_4(t) = 2e^{3t} \sin(t)$, let $g(t) = \sin(t)$ and use the translation property:

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{3t} \sin(t)\} = G(x-3), \quad \forall x > 3.$$

Since $\mathcal{L}(\sin(t)) = \frac{1}{x^2+1}$, $\forall x > 0$; then $\mathcal{L}\{e^{3t} \sin(t)\} = \frac{1}{(x-3)^2+1}$, $\forall x > 3$.

Using linearity: $F_4(x) = 2\mathcal{L}\{e^{3t} \sin(t)\} = \frac{2}{(x-3)^2+1}$, $\forall x > 3$.

5) $f_5(t) = \frac{\cos(at) - \cos(bt)}{t}$, let $g(t) = \cos(at) - \cos(bt)$,

as $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(t)}{t} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{-a \sin(at) + b \sin(bt)}{1} = 0$ for $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, then:

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{g(t)}{t}\right\} = \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{G(u)}{u} du, \quad \forall x > \gamma_g;$$

where $G(x) = \mathcal{L}(\cos(at) - \cos(bt))$ (using linearity):

$$G(x) = \mathcal{L}(\cos(at)) - \mathcal{L}(\cos(bt)) = \frac{x}{x^2+a^2} - \frac{x}{x^2+b^2}, \quad \forall x > 0;$$

thus,

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{g(t)}{t}\right\} = \int_0^{+\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2} \log \frac{x^2+b^2}{x^2+a^2}\right) \frac{1}{x} dx, \quad \forall x > 0;$$

i.e., $\mathcal{L}(f_5(t)) = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{x^2+b^2}{x^2+a^2}$, $\forall x > 0$

6) $f_6(t) = \int_0^t \frac{\cos(au) - \cos(bu)}{u} du$; we notice that $f_6(t) = \int_0^t f_5(u) du$ then:

$$\mathcal{L}\left(\int_0^t f_5(u) du\right) = F_5(x) \frac{1}{x}, \quad \forall x > 0,$$

from the previous question, we have: $F_5(x) = \mathcal{L}(f_5(t)) = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{x^2+b^2}{x^2+a^2}$, $\forall x > 0$; thus,

$$\mathcal{L}(f_6(t)) = \frac{1}{2x} \log \frac{x^2+b^2}{x^2+a^2}, \quad \forall x > 0.$$

Exercise 3:

1) Show that $\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{\sin(2t)}{t}\right\} = \frac{1}{4} \log\left(\frac{x^2+4}{x^2}\right)$.

2) Evaluate:

$$\int_0^{+\infty} \frac{e^{-t} \sin(2t)}{t} dt$$

Solution:

1) Show that $\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{\sin(2t)}{t}\right\} = \frac{1}{4} \log\left(\frac{x^2+4}{x^2}\right)$, let $f(t) = \sin^2 t$, as $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(t)}{t} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin t}{t} = 1 \in \mathbb{R}$,

then:

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{f(t)}{t}\right\} = \int_x^{+\infty} \frac{F(u)}{u} du, \quad \forall x > \gamma_f$$

where $F(x) = \mathcal{L}\{\sin^2 t\} = \frac{1}{2}(\mathcal{L}\{1\} - \mathcal{L}\{\cos(2t)\}) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{x}{x^2 + 4} \right)$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} \left\{ \frac{f(t)}{t} \right\} &= \frac{1}{2} \int_x^{+\infty} \left(\frac{1}{u} - \frac{u}{u^2 + 4} \right) du = \frac{1}{2} \left[\log(u) - \frac{1}{2} \log(u^2 + 4) \right]_x^{+\infty} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} [\log(u^2) - \log(u^2 + 4)]_x^{+\infty} = \frac{1}{4} \log \left(\frac{u^2 + 4}{u^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \log \left(\frac{x^2 + 4}{x^2} \right), \quad \forall x > 0 \end{aligned}$$

2) Evaluate: $I = \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{e^{-xt} \sin(2t)}{t} dt$, returning to the definition:

$$\mathcal{L} \left\{ \frac{\sin(2t)}{t} \right\} = \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{e^{-xt} \sin(2t)}{t} dt = \frac{1}{4} \log \left(\frac{x^2 + 4}{x^2} \right), \quad \forall x > 0$$

thus for $x = 1$ we find the value of I ; hence, $I = \frac{1}{4} \log(5)$.

Exercise 4: Determine the inverse transforms of the following functions:

$$1) \frac{x^2}{(x+3)^3}, \quad 2) \frac{1}{x(x+1)^3}, \quad 3) \frac{x}{(x^2+1)^2}, \quad 4) \frac{x^3 - 2x^2 + 1}{x^4 + x^2}.$$

Solution:

$$1) F_1(x) = \frac{x^2}{(x+3)^3} = \frac{(x+3-3)^2}{(x+3)^3},$$

knowing that

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \{G(x+3)\} = e^{-3t} g(t) \text{ where } g(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \{G(x)\}.$$

$$\text{then } G(x) = \frac{x^2 - 6x + 9}{x^3} = \frac{1}{x} - \frac{6}{x^2} + \frac{9}{x^3},$$

$$\text{i.e., } g(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{x} \right\} - 6 \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{x^2} \right\} + \frac{9}{2} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{x^3} \right\} = 1 - 6t + \frac{9}{2} t^2,$$

$$\text{therefore } \mathcal{L}^{-1} \{F_1(x)\} = e^{-3t} (1 - 6t + \frac{9}{2} t^2), \text{ for } \forall t \geq 0..$$

$$2) F_2(x) = \frac{1}{x(x+1)^3}.$$

$$\text{Let's assume: } f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{x(x+1)^3} \right\} = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{\frac{1}{(x+1)^3}}{x} \right\} = \int_0^t g(u) du \text{ where } g(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(x+1)^3} \right\},$$

$$\text{and } G(x) = \frac{1}{(x+1)^3}. \text{ Therefore: } g(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(x+1)^3} \right\} = e^{-t} h(t) = h(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{x^3} \right\} = \frac{1}{2} t^2.$$

$$\text{Thus, } g(t) = e^{-t} \cdot \frac{1}{2} t^2 = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t u^2 e^{-u} du, \text{ by performing two integration by parts we get:}$$

$$f(t) = 1 - e^{-t} (1 + t + \frac{1}{2} t^2) \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

$$3) F_3(x) = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{2x}{(x^2+1)^2} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{x^2+1}. \text{ Therefore, } \mathcal{L}^{-1}(F_3(x)) = -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \sin(t) \quad \forall t \geq 0..$$

$$4) F_4(x) = \frac{x^3 - 2x^2 + 1}{x^4 + x^2} = \frac{x}{x^2+1} - 3 \frac{1}{x^2+1} + \frac{1}{x^2}.$$

Since $\frac{1}{u(u+1)} = \frac{1}{u} - \frac{1}{u+1}$,

we have:

$$F_4(x) = \frac{x}{x^2+1} - 3\frac{1}{x^2+1} + \frac{1}{x^2} = \frac{x}{x^2+1} - 3\frac{1}{x^2+1} + \frac{1}{x^2}.$$

Therefore,

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}(F_4(x)) = \cos(t) - 3\sin(t) + t \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

Exercise 5: Solve the following differential equation using Laplace transform:

$$y''(t) + y(t) = \sin(2t) \text{ for } t > 0; \quad y(0) = 2; \quad y'(0) = 0$$

Solution: Using Laplace transform to solve the differential equation:

$$y''(t) + y(t) = \sin(2t); \quad y(0) = 2; \quad y'(0) = 0$$

Which is equivalent to solving using Laplace transform:

$$\mathcal{L}(y'') + \mathcal{L}(y) = \mathcal{L}(\sin(2t)); \quad y(0) = 2; \quad y'(0) = 0 :$$

Let's define: $Y = \mathcal{L}(y) :$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 Y - xy(0) - y'(0) + Y = \frac{2}{x^2+4}; \quad x > 0 :$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 Y - 2x + Y = \frac{2}{x^2+4}; \quad x > 0 :$$

$$\Rightarrow (x^2+1)Y = 2x + \frac{2}{x^2+4}; \quad x > 0 :$$

$$\text{Therefore, } Y = \frac{2}{(x^2+4)(x^2+1)} + \frac{2x}{x^2+1}$$

$$\text{Given that } \frac{2}{(u+1)(u+4)} = \frac{2}{3} \left(\frac{1}{u+1} - \frac{1}{u+4} \right),$$

$$\text{we have } Y = \frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{x^2+1} - \frac{1}{3} \frac{2}{x^2+4} + 2 \frac{x}{x^2+4}$$

$$y = \mathcal{L}^{-1}(Y) = \frac{2}{3} \sin(t) - \frac{1}{3} \sin(2t) + 2 \cos(2t) \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$