

# MA 108 - Ordinary Differential Equations

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# Exponential order functions

Recall:

- For a given  $f$ ,  $L(f)$  **may or may not exist**.
- **Sufficient conditions** under which **convergence** is guaranteed for the integral in the definition of the Laplace transform is that  $f$  is piecewise continuous and is of exponential order.
- **Piecewise continuity** - The function is continuous except possibly for finitely many **jump** discontinuities.

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A function  $f$  is said to be of **exponential order** if there exists  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and positive constants  $t_0$  and  $K$  such that

$$|f(t)| \leq Ke^{at},$$

for all  $t \geq t_0 > 0$ .

# Exponential order functions-Examples

- If  $f$  is a bounded function defined on  $[0, \infty)$ , then it is of exponential order with  $a = 0$ . In particular,  $f(t) = \sin bt, \cos bt, t \geq 0$  are of exponential order.
- $e^{\alpha t} \sin bt, t \geq 0$  is of exponential order with  $a = \alpha$ .
- For  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $f(t) = t^\alpha, t \geq 0$  is of exponential order, since for any  $a > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} t^\alpha e^{-at} = 0.$$

- If the functions  $f_1, f_2$  defined on  $[0, \infty)$  are of exponential order, so are  $f_1 \pm f_2, f_1 f_2$ .

# Laplace transform-existence

Theorem: Let  $f$  be a piecewise continuous on  $[0, \infty)$  and is of exponential order. Then  $L(f)$  exists on a domain which contain  $(\alpha, \infty)$  where  $\alpha$  is such that

$$|f(t)| \leq Ke^{\alpha t}, \quad t \geq t_0, K > 0, t_0 \geq 0.$$

Proof: Consider

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} |f(t)| dt &= \int_0^{t_0} e^{-st} |f(t)| dt + \int_{t_0}^{\infty} e^{-st} |f(t)| dt \\ &\leq \int_0^{t_0} e^{-st} |f(t)| dt + K \int_{t_0}^{\infty} e^{-(s-\alpha)t} dt. \end{aligned}$$

First integral exists, since it is a definite integral and  $f$  is piecewise continuous. Second integral exists for all  $s > a$ . This we have already seen. Now comparison test for integrals implies that  $L(f)(s)$  exists for all  $s > a$ .

# Laplace transform-existence

The conditions given in the previous theorem are sufficient but not necessary.

Let  $f(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}$ ,  $t > 0$  and  $f(0) = 0$ . Then  $f$  is not continuous at 0 and hence not piecewise continuous on  $[0, \beta]$ , for any  $\beta > 0$ .

Now

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} dt = \int_0^1 e^{-st} \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} dt + \int_1^{\infty} e^{-st} \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} dt$$

Both the integrals exists using comparison test for integrals.  
Hence  $L(f)$  exists on  $(0, \infty)$ .

# Property 1 : Linearity

Let  $f, g : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be functions such that  $L(f)$  and  $L(g)$  exist on  $(\alpha, \infty)$ . Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then,

$$L(af + bg)(s) = aL(f)(s) + bL(g)(s), s > \alpha.$$

Proof: For  $s > \alpha$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} L(af + bg)(s) &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st}(af(t) + bg(t))dt \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st}af(t)dt + \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st}bg(t)dt \\ &= aL(f)(s) + bL(g)(s). \end{aligned}$$

# Example 1

For  $s > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}L(e^{i\omega t})(s) &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} e^{i\omega t} dt \\&= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(s-i\omega)t} dt \\&= \frac{e^{-(s-i\omega)t}}{-(s-i\omega)} \Big|_{t=0}^{\infty} = \frac{1}{s-i\omega} \\&= \frac{s+i\omega}{s^2+\omega^2}.\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$L(\cos \omega t + i \sin \omega t)(s) = \frac{s+i\omega}{s^2+\omega^2}.$$

Using linearity,

$$L(\cos \omega t)(s) = \frac{s}{s^2+\omega^2}, \quad L(\sin \omega t)(s) = \frac{\omega}{s^2+\omega^2}.$$

## Example 2

For  $a \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}L(\cosh at)(s) &= L\left(\frac{e^{at} + e^{-at}}{2}\right)(s), s > a, \\&= \frac{1}{2}L(e^{at})(s) + \frac{1}{2}L(e^{-at})(s) \\&= \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{s-a} + \frac{1}{s+a}\right) = \frac{s}{s^2 - a^2}.\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $L(\cosh at)(s) = \frac{s}{s^2 - a^2}, s > a.$

Similarly,  $L(\sinh at)(s) = \frac{a}{s^2 - a^2}, s > a.$



## Example 3

For  $s > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}L(te^{i\omega t})(s) &= \int_0^\infty e^{-st} te^{i\omega t} dt = \int_0^\infty te^{-(s-i\omega)t} dt \\&= \left. \frac{te^{-(s-i\omega)t}}{-(s-i\omega)} \right|_{t=0}^\infty + \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-(s-i\omega)t}}{s-i\omega} dt \\&= \frac{1}{s-i\omega} \times \left. \frac{e^{-(s-i\omega)t}}{-(s-i\omega)} \right|_{t=0}^\infty \\&= \frac{1}{(s-i\omega)^2} = \frac{1}{s^2 - \omega^2 - 2is\omega} \frac{s^2 - \omega^2 + 2is\omega}{s^2 - \omega^2 + 2is\omega} \\&= \frac{s^2 - \omega^2}{(s^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 4s^2\omega^2} + i \frac{2s\omega}{(s^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 4s^2\omega^2} \\&= \frac{s^2 - \omega^2}{(s^2 + \omega^2)^2} + i \frac{2s\omega}{(s^2 + \omega^2)^2}.\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$L(t \cos \omega t)(s) = \frac{s^2 - \omega^2}{(s^2 + \omega^2)^2}, \quad L(t \sin \omega t)(s) = \frac{2s\omega}{(s^2 + \omega^2)^2}, \quad s > 0.$$

## Property 2 : I Shifting theorem (s shifting)

If  $L(f(t))(s) = F(s)$ , then  $L(e^{at}f(t))(s) = F(s - a)$ .

Proof :

$$\begin{aligned}L(e^{at}f(t))(s) &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} e^{at} f(t) dt \\&= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(s-a)t} f(t) dt \\&= F(s - a).\end{aligned}$$

Examples :

1.  $L(t^2)(s) = \frac{2}{s^3}, s > 0 \implies L(e^{-t}t^2)(s) = \frac{2}{(s+1)^3}, s > -1.$
2.  $L(\cos \omega t)(s) = \frac{s}{s^2 + \omega^2}, s > 0 \implies L(e^{at} \cos \omega t)(s) = \frac{s - a}{(s - a)^2 + \omega^2}, s > a.$

Find the Laplace transforms of

- 1  $t^n e^{at}$
- 2  $\cosh at \cos at$
- 3  $e^{-t} \sin^2 t$

## Property 3 : Scaling

$$\text{If } L(f)(s) = F(s), \text{ then } L(f(ct))(s) = \frac{1}{c} F\left(\frac{s}{c}\right), \quad c > 0.$$

Proof: Let  $\xi = ct$ . Then,  $d\xi = c \, dt$ .

$$\begin{aligned} L(f(ct)) &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(ct) \, dt \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\left(\frac{s\xi}{c}\right)} \frac{1}{c} f(\xi) \, d\xi \\ &= \frac{1}{c} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\left(\frac{s\xi}{c}\right)} f(\xi) \, d\xi \\ &= \frac{1}{c} F\left(\frac{s}{c}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Example :

$$L(e^t)(s) = \frac{1}{s-1}, \quad s > 1 \implies L(e^{at})(s) = \frac{1}{a} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{s}{a}-1\right)} = \frac{1}{s-a}, \quad s > a.$$

## Property 4 : Differentiation

I.

- (i) Suppose  $f$  is continuous,
- (ii)  $f'$  is piecewise continuous on  $[0, a]$  for all  $a > 0$ ,
- (iii)  $|f(t)| \leq Ke^{\alpha t}$ , for  $t \geq t_0 > 0$ , where  $K > 0$ ,  $t_0, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Then,  $L(f')(s)$  exists for  $s > \alpha$  and

$$L(f') = sL(f) - f(0).$$

II.

- (a) Suppose  $f, f', \dots, f^{(n-1)}$  are continuous
- (b)  $f^{(n)}$  is piecewise continuous on  $[0, a]$ , for all  $a > 0$ ,
- (c) For all  $t \geq t_0 > 0$ ,  $|f^{(i)}(t)| \leq Ke^{\alpha t}$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n-1$ , where  $K > 0$ ,  $t_0, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Then,  $L(f^{(n)})(s)$  exists for all  $s > \alpha$  and

$$L(f^{(n)}) = s^n L(f) - s^{n-1} f(0) - s^{n-2} f'(0) - \dots - s f^{(n-2)}(0) - f^{(n-1)}(0).$$

# Proof of Property 4

Consider the interval  $[0, \beta]$ . Let  $f$  be discontinuous at  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n$ , where  $0 = t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n < t_{n+1} = \beta$ . Then,

$$\int_0^\beta e^{-st} f(t) dt = \int_0^{t_1} e^{-st} f(t) dt + \int_{t_1}^{t_2} e^{-st} f(t) dt + \dots + \int_{t_n}^\beta e^{-st} f(t) dt.$$

Integrating by parts, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\beta e^{-st} f(t) dt &= \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} [e^{-st} f(t)]_{t_{i-1}}^{t_i} + s \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_i} e^{-st} f(t) dt \\ &= e^{-s\beta} f(\beta) - f(0) + s \int_0^\beta e^{-st} f(t) dt. \end{aligned}$$

Taking limit as  $\beta \rightarrow \infty$ , we get:

$$L(f')(s) = sL(f) - f(0),$$

for  $s > \alpha$ .

# Proof of Corollary

Induction.  $n = 1$  is already done. Assume that the result is true up to  $n - 1$ . Then, for  $s > \alpha$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}L(f^{(n)})(s) &= L((f^{(n-1)})')(s) \\&= sL(f^{(n-1)}) - f^{(n-1)}(0) \\&= s(s^{n-1}L(f) - s^{n-2}f(0) - \dots - f^{(n-2)}(0)) - f^{(n-1)}(0) \\&= s^n L(f) - s^{n-1}f(0) - s^{n-2}f'(0) - \dots - f^{(n-1)}(0).\end{aligned}$$

✓ First derivative :

$$L(f')(s) = sL(f) - f(0).$$

✓ Second derivative :

$$L(f'')(s) = s^2 L(f) - sf(0) - f'(0).$$