

## § 7.1 Laplace Transform ( $t \geq 0$ )

(I)

Definition: Suppose  $f(t)$  is piecewise continuous on  $[0, \infty)$ . Then the Laplace transform of  $f(t)$  is

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \int_0^{\infty} \underbrace{e^{-st}}_{\text{kernel}} f(t) dt,$$

$\parallel$   
 $F(s)$

provided this limit exists.

---

eg Suppose  $\int_0^{\infty} t^2 e^{-(s+1)t} dt = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$

for some function  $f(t)$ . Identify  $f(t)$ .

$$\int_0^{\infty} t^2 e^{-(s+1)t} dt = \int_0^{\infty} \underbrace{e^{-st}}_{\text{kernel}} \cdot \underbrace{t^2 e^{-t}}_{f(t)} dt.$$

$$\text{So } f(t) = t^2 e^{-t}.$$

Recall  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^{-ax} = 0$  only if  $a > 0$ .

Exponential decay.

$$\left( \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^{-ax} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\underbrace{e^{ax}}_{\rightarrow \infty, a > 0}} = 0 \right)$$

Using the definition, find the Laplace transform of the following function and for which  $s$ ?

eg  $F(t) = 1$

$$F(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} \cdot 1 dt = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^T e^{-st} dt$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{e^{-st}}{-s} \right]_0^T = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{e^{-sT}}{-s} - \left( -\frac{1}{s} \right) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{s}, \quad s > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$(e^{-sT} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } T \rightarrow \infty \text{ if } s > 0)$$

$$\text{So } \mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{s}.$$

eg  $f(t) = e^{at}$

$$F(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} e^{at} dt = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^T e^{-(s-a)t} dt$$

$$= \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{e^{-(s-a)t}}{s-a} \right]_0^T$$

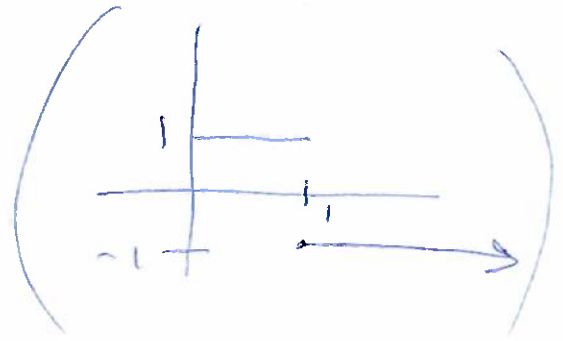
$$= \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -\frac{e^{-(s-a)T}}{s-a} + \frac{1}{s-a} \right] = \frac{1}{s-a}$$

when  $s-a > 0$ , i.e.  $s > a$ .

So, for  $s > a$ ,  $\mathcal{L}\{e^{at}\} = \frac{1}{s-a}$ .

eg  $\mathcal{L}\{e^{3t}\} = \frac{1}{s-3}$  for  $s > 3$ .

$$\text{eg } f(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \leq t < 1 \\ -1, & t \geq 1 \end{cases}$$



$$F(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt$$

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

$$= \left[ \frac{e^{-st}}{-s} \right]_0^1 - \left[ \frac{e^{-st}}{-s} \right]_1^{\infty}$$

$$= \frac{e^{-s}}{-s} + \frac{1}{s} - \left( 0 - \frac{e^{-s}}{-s} \right)$$

$s > 0$

$$= -\frac{e^{-s}}{s} + \frac{1}{s} - \frac{e^{-s}}{s}$$

$$= \frac{1}{s} - \frac{2e^{-s}}{s}, \quad s > 0$$

$$\text{eg } f(t) = \begin{cases} t & , 0 \leq t < 2 \\ 0 & , t \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

$$F(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt$$

$$= \int_0^2 t e^{-st} dt + \underbrace{\int_2^{\infty} 0 dt}_0$$

$$= \left[ \frac{t e^{-st}}{-s} - \int_0^2 \frac{e^{-st}}{-s} dt \right]_0^2$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} u = t \\ du = dt \\ dv = e^{-st} dt \\ v = \frac{e^{-st}}{-s} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$= \left[ uv \Big|_0^2 - \int_0^2 v du \right]$$

$$= \left[ \frac{2e^{-2s}}{-s} - 0 - \frac{e^{-st}}{(-s)^2} \right]_0^2$$

$$= -\frac{2e^{-2s}}{s} - \frac{e^{-2s}}{s^2} + \frac{1}{s^2}$$

We will learn an (easier) way of finding the Laplace Transform of a piecewise continuous function in 7.3.2 and 7.4.

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^n\}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{s}, \quad s > 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} u &= t \\ du &= dt \\ dv &= e^{-st} dt \\ v &= \frac{e^{-st}}{-s} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t\} = \int_0^{\infty} t e^{-st} dt$$

$$= -\frac{t e^{-st}}{s} \Big|_0^{\infty} + \int_0^{\infty} \frac{e^{-st}}{s} dt$$

$$= 0 + 0 + \frac{1}{s} \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} dt}_{\mathcal{L}\{1\}}$$

$e^{-st} \rightarrow 0$   
much faster  
than any power  
of  $t$ .

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{s} \\ &= \frac{1}{s^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^2\} = \int_0^{\infty} t^2 e^{-st} dt$$

$$\begin{aligned} u &= t^2 \\ du &= 2t dt \\ dv &= e^{-st} dt \\ v &= -\frac{e^{-st}}{s} \end{aligned}$$

$$= -\frac{t^2 e^{-st}}{s} \Big|_0^{\infty} + \int_0^{\infty} 2t \frac{e^{-st}}{s} dt$$

$$= 0 + \frac{2}{s} \int_0^{\infty} t e^{-st} dt$$

$$= \frac{2}{s} \cdot \mathcal{L}\{t\} = \frac{2}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2} = \frac{2}{s^3}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L}\{t^n\} &= \int_0^{\infty} t^n e^{-st} dt \\
 &= \frac{t^n e^{-st}}{-s} \Big|_0^{\infty} + \int_0^{\infty} n t^{n-1} \frac{e^{-st}}{s} dt \\
 &\stackrel{||}{=} 0 + \frac{n}{s} \int_0^{\infty} t^{n-1} e^{-st} dt \\
 &= \frac{n}{s} \mathcal{L}\{t^{n-1}\}
 \end{aligned}
 \left. \begin{array}{l} u = t^n \\ du = n t^{n-1} dt \\ dv = e^{-st} dt \\ v = \frac{e^{-st}}{-s} \end{array} \right\}$$

---

Pattern:  $\mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{s}$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t\} = \frac{1}{s^2}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^2\} = \frac{2}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2} = \frac{2}{s^3}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^3\} = \frac{3}{s} \cdot \frac{2}{s^3} = \frac{6}{s^4} = \frac{3!}{s^4}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^4\} = \frac{4}{s} \mathcal{L}\{t^3\} = \frac{4}{s} \cdot \frac{3!}{s^4} = \frac{4!}{s^5}$$

⋮

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^n\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$$

(II) The Laplace transform is linear.

Assume  $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$  and  $\mathcal{L}\{g(t)\} = G(s)$ .

Then

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{c_1 f(t) + c_2 g(t)\} &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} [c_1 f(t) + c_2 g(t)] dt \\&= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} c_1 f(t) dt + \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} c_2 g(t) dt \\&= c_1 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt + c_2 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} g(t) dt \\&= c_1 F(s) + c_2 G(s) \quad \text{by the properties}\end{aligned}$$

of the definite integral and the limit laws.

Laplace formulas:

learn for Test 2

a)  $\mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{s}$

b)  $\mathcal{L}\{t^n\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}, \quad n=1, 2, \dots$

c)  $\mathcal{L}\{e^{at}\} = \frac{1}{s-a}$

d)  $\mathcal{L}\{\cos kt\} = \frac{s}{s^2 + k^2}$

e)  $\mathcal{L}\{\sin kt\} = \frac{k}{s^2 + k^2}$



$$\text{eg } \mathcal{L} \{t^2 - 2t + 5\}$$

$$= \mathcal{L} \{t^2\} - 2\mathcal{L} \{t\} + 5$$

$$= \frac{2}{s^3} - \frac{2}{s^2} + \frac{5}{s}$$

$$\text{eg } f(t) = t^3 - e^{-9t} + 5 + \cos 2t + \sin t$$

$$F(s) = \mathcal{L} \{f(t)\} = \frac{3!}{s^4} - \frac{1}{s+9} + \frac{5}{s} + \frac{s}{s^2+25} + \frac{1}{s^2+1}$$

$$F(s) = \frac{6}{s^4} - \frac{1}{s+9} + \frac{5}{s} + \frac{s}{s^2+25} + \frac{1}{s^2+1}$$