

MATH 2132 Problem Workshop 6

1. Compute the Laplace transforms of the following functions. For part (a) use the definition. For the others, you can use the table

(a) $f(t) = e^{-2t} \cos 4t$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} F(s) &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} e^{-2t} \cos 4t \, dt \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{(-s-2)t} \cos 4t \, dt \end{aligned}$$

Let $I = \int e^{(-s-2)t} \cos 4t \, dt$.

Using integration by parts with $dv = e^{(-s-2)t} \, dt$ we get

$$I = \frac{1}{-s-2} \cos 4t e^{(-s-2)t} - \frac{4}{-s-2} \int e^{(-s-2)t} \sin 4t \, dt$$

Using integration by parts again with $dv = e^{(-s-2)t} \, dt$ we get

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \frac{1}{-s-2} \cos 4t e^{(-s-2)t} + \frac{4}{-s-2} \left(\frac{1}{-s-2} \sin 4t e^{(-s-2)t} - \frac{4}{-s-2} \int e^{(-s-2)t} \cos 4t \, dt \right) \\ &= \frac{e^{(-s-2)t}}{-s-2} \cos 4t + \frac{4e^{(-s-2)t}}{(-s-2)^2} \sin 4t - \frac{16}{(-s-2)^2} I \\ &\Rightarrow \left(1 + \frac{16}{(s+2)^2} \right) I = \frac{e^{(-s-2)t}}{-s-2} \cos 4t - \frac{4e^{(-s-2)t}}{(-s-2)^2} \sin 4t \\ &\Rightarrow I = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{16}{(s+2)^2}} \left(\frac{e^{(-s-2)t}}{-s-2} \cos 4t + \frac{4e^{(-s-2)t}}{(-s-2)^2} \sin 4t \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{(s+2)^2 + 16} \left(-(s+2) \cos 4t + 4 \sin 4t \right) e^{(-s-2)t} \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} F(s) &= \lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(s+2)^2 + 16} \left(-(s+2) \cos 4t + 4 \sin 4t \right) e^{(-s-2)t} \Big|_0^z \\ &= \frac{1}{(s+2)^2 + 16} \lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \left(\left(-(s+2) \cos 4z + 4 \sin 4z \right) e^{(-s-2)z} - (-(s+2)) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{(s+2)^2 + 16} (s+2) \end{aligned}$$

Where $\lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \left(-(s+2) \cos 4z + 4 \sin 4z \right) e^{(-s-2)z} = 0$ as in absolute value

$$\left| -(s+2) \cos 4z + 4 \sin 4z \right| e^{(-s-2)z} \leq (s+6) e^{(-s-2)z} \rightarrow 0.$$

Hence $F(s) = \frac{s+2}{(s+2)^2 + 16}$.

(b) $f(t) = e^{-2t} \cos 4th(t-3)$

Solution:

We use that $\mathcal{L}(h(t-a)f(t)) = e^{-as}\mathcal{L}(f(t+a))$ to get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(e^{-2t} \cos 4th(t-3)) &= e^{-3s} \mathcal{L}(e^{-2(t+3)} \cos 4(t+3)) \\ &= e^{-3s} \mathcal{L}(e^{-2t-6} \cos 4(t+3)) \\ &= e^{-3s-6} \mathcal{L}(e^{-2t} \cos(4t+12)) \end{aligned}$$

Since $\cos(4t+12) = \cos(12) \cos 4t - \sin(12) \sin 4t$,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(e^{-2t} \cos 4th(t-3)) &= e^{-3s-6} \mathcal{L}(e^{-2t} \cos(4t+12)) \\ &= e^{-3s-6} (\cos(12) \mathcal{L}(e^{-2t} \cos 4t) - \sin(12) \mathcal{L}(e^{-2t} \sin 4t)) \\ &= e^{-3s-6} \left(\frac{\cos(12)(s+2)}{(s+2)^2 + 16} - \frac{4 \sin(12)}{(s+2)^2 + 16} \right) \end{aligned}$$

(c) $f(t) = \begin{cases} 2t-5 & 0 \leq t < 4 \\ t^2 & 4 \leq t < 8 \\ 1 & t \geq 8 \end{cases}$

Solution:

Option 1: Definition

$$\mathcal{L}(f(t)) = \int_0^4 (2t-5)e^{-st} dt + \int_4^8 t^2 e^{-st} dt + \int_8^\infty e^{-st} dt.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^4 (2t-5)e^{-st} dt &= \frac{1}{-s}(2t-5)e^{-st} \Big|_0^4 + \frac{1}{s} \int_0^4 2e^{-st} dt \\
&= \frac{1}{-s}(2t-5)e^{-st} - \frac{2e^{-st}}{s^2} \Big|_0^4 \\
&= -\frac{3}{s}e^{-4s} - \frac{2}{s^2}e^{-4s} - \frac{5}{s} + \frac{2}{s^2}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_4^8 t^2 e^{-st} dt &= \frac{1}{-s}t^2 e^{-st} \Big|_4^8 + \frac{1}{s} \int_4^8 2te^{-st} dt \\
&= -\frac{1}{s}t^2 e^{-st} - \frac{2t}{s^2}e^{-st} \Big|_4^8 + \frac{1}{s^2} \int_4^8 2e^{-st} dt \\
&= -\frac{1}{s}t^2 e^{-st} - \frac{2t}{s^2}e^{-st} - \frac{2}{s^3}e^{-st} \Big|_4^8 \\
&= e^{-8s} \left(-\frac{64}{s} - \frac{16}{s^2} - \frac{2}{s^3} \right) + e^{-4s} \left(\frac{16}{s} + \frac{8}{s^2} + \frac{2}{s^3} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_8^\infty e^{-st} dt &= \lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{-s}e^{-st} \Big|_8^z \\
&= \lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{-s}e^{-sz} + \frac{1}{s}e^{-8s} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{s}e^{-8s}
\end{aligned}$$

Thus the Laplace transform is

$$\frac{2}{s^2} - \frac{5}{s} + e^{-4s} \left(\frac{13}{s} + \frac{6}{s^2} + \frac{2}{s^3} \right) + e^{-8s} \left(-\frac{63}{s} - \frac{16}{s^2} - \frac{2}{s^3} \right)$$

Solution 2: Re-write as step functions

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{cc} 2t-5 & 0 \leq t < 4 \\ 0 & 4 \leq t \end{array} \right\} + \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} 0 & 0 \leq t < 4 \\ t^2 & 4 \leq t < 8 \\ 0 & t \geq 8 \end{array} \right\} + \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} 0 & 0 \leq t < 8 \\ 1 & t \geq 8 \end{array} \right\}$$

The first is

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}(2t - 5 - (2t - 5)h(t - 4)) &= \frac{2}{s^2} - \frac{5}{s} - e^{-4s}\mathcal{L}(2(t + 4) + 5) \\
&= \frac{2}{s^2} - \frac{5}{s} - e^{-4s}\mathcal{L}(2t + 3) \\
&= \frac{2}{s^2} - \frac{5}{s} - e^{-4s}\left(\frac{2}{s^2} + \frac{3}{s}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

The second is

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}(t^2h(t - 4) - t^2h(t - 8)) &= e^{-4s}\mathcal{L}((t + 4)^2) - e^{-8s}\mathcal{L}((t + 8)^2) \\
&= e^{-4s}\mathcal{L}(t^2 + 8t + 16) - e^{-8s}\mathcal{L}(t^2 + 16t + 64) \\
&= e^{-4s}\left(\frac{16}{s} + \frac{8}{s^2} + \frac{2}{s^3}\right) - e^{-8s}\left(\frac{64}{s} + \frac{16}{s^2} + \frac{2}{s^3}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

The last is

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}(h(t - 8)) &= e^{-8s}\mathcal{L}(1) \\
&= \frac{e^{-8s}}{s}.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus the Laplace transform is

$$\frac{2}{s^2} - \frac{5}{s} + e^{-4s}\left(\frac{13}{s} + \frac{6}{s^2} + \frac{2}{s^3}\right) + e^{-8s}\left(-\frac{63}{s} - \frac{16}{s^2} - \frac{2}{s^3}\right)$$

(d) $f(t) = t^2 - 2t + 3, \quad 0 \leq t < 2 \quad f(t + 2) = f(t)$

Solution:

The Laplace transform of a periodic function $f(t)$ with period p is

$$\mathcal{L}(f(t)) = \frac{1}{1 - e^{-ps}} \int_0^p e^{-st} f(t) dt$$

First lets find

$$\int (t^2 - 2t + 3)e^{-st} dt.$$

Using integration by parts twice with $dv = e^{-st} dt$

$$\begin{aligned}
I &= \int (t^2 - 2t + 3)e^{-st} dt \\
&= -\frac{1}{s}(t^2 - 2t + 3)e^{-st} + \frac{1}{s} \int (2t - 2)e^{-st} dt \\
&= -\frac{1}{s}(t^2 - 2t + 3)e^{-st} + \frac{1}{s} \left(-\frac{1}{s}(2t - 2)e^{-st} + \frac{2}{s} \int e^{-st} dt \right) \\
&= -\frac{1}{s}(t^2 - 2t + 3)e^{-st} - \frac{1}{s^2}(2t - 2)e^{-st} + \frac{2}{s^2} \int e^{-st} dt \\
&= -\frac{1}{s}(t^2 - 2t + 3)e^{-st} - \frac{1}{s^2}(2t - 2)e^{-st} - \frac{2}{s^3}e^{-st} + C
\end{aligned}$$

Since the period of the function is 2 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^2 (t^2 - 2t + 3)e^{-st} dt &= -\frac{1}{s}(t^2 - 2t + 3)e^{-st} - \frac{1}{s^2}(2t - 2)e^{-st} - \frac{2}{s^3}e^{-st} \Big|_0^2 \\
&= \left(-\frac{1}{s}(3)e^{-2s} - \frac{1}{s^2}(2)e^{-2s} - \frac{2}{s^3}e^{-2s} \right) - \left(-\frac{1}{s}(3) - \frac{1}{s^2}(-2) - \frac{2}{s^3} \right) \\
&= e^{-2s} \left(-\frac{3}{s} - \frac{2}{s^2} - \frac{2}{s^3} \right) + \left(\frac{3}{s} - \frac{2}{s^2} + \frac{2}{s^3} \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore the Laplace transform is

$$\frac{1}{1 - e^{-2s}} \left(e^{-2s} \left(-\frac{3}{s} - \frac{2}{s^2} - \frac{2}{s^3} \right) + \left(\frac{3}{s} - \frac{2}{s^2} + \frac{2}{s^3} \right) \right).$$

2. Compute the inverse Laplace Transform for the following functions.

(a) $F(s) = \frac{s^2 + 3}{s^3 + 2s^2 + s}$

Solution:

This can be re-written as

$F(s) = \frac{s^2 + 3}{s(s+1)^2}$. Using partial fractions

$$\frac{s^2 + 3}{s(s+1)^2} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s+1} + \frac{C}{(s+1)^2} = \frac{A(s+1)^2 + Bs(s+1) + Cs}{s(s+1)^2}.$$

Therefore

$$s^2 + 3 = s^2(A + B) + s(2A + B + C) + A$$

Hence $A = 3$, $A + B = 1 \Rightarrow B = -2$ and $2A + B + C = 0 \Rightarrow C = -4$.

Thus we are finding

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{s} - \frac{2}{s+1} - \frac{4}{(s+1)^2}\right) = 3 - 2e^{-t} - 4te^{-t}.$$

(b) $F(s) = \frac{e^{-s}(1 + e^{-2s})}{s^2 - s}$

Solution:

This can be rearranged to be

$$\frac{e^{-s}}{s^2 - s} + \frac{e^{-3s}}{s^2 - s}$$

Recall that $\mathcal{L}(h(t-a)f(t)) = e^{-as}\mathcal{L}(f(t+a))$.

For $\frac{e^{-s}}{s^2 - s}$, we have $a = 1$. We then find the inverse Laplace transform of $\frac{1}{s(s-1)} = \frac{1}{s-1} - \frac{1}{s}$ which is $e^t - 1$.

Thus $f(t+1) = e^t - 1 \Rightarrow f(t) = e^{t-1} - 1$. So $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{e^{-s}}{s^2 - s}\right) = h(t-1)(e^{t-1} - 1)$.

For $\frac{e^{-3s}}{s^2 - s}$, we have $a = 3$. We then find the inverse Laplace transform of $\frac{1}{s(s-1)} = \frac{1}{s-1} - \frac{1}{s}$ which is $e^t - 1$.

Thus $f(t+3) = e^t - 1 \Rightarrow f(t) = e^{t-3} - 1$. So $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{e^{-3s}}{s^2 - s}\right) = h(t-3)(e^{t-3} - 1)$.

Therefore

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{e^{-s}}{s^2 - s} + \frac{e^{-3s}}{s^2 - s}\right) = h(t-1)(e^{t-1} - 1) + h(t-3)(e^{t-3} - 1).$$

As a piecewise function this would be

$$\begin{cases} 0 & t < 1 \\ e^{t-1} - 1 & 1 \leq t < 3 \\ e^{t-1} + e^{t-3} - 2 & 3 \leq t \end{cases}$$

(c) $F(s) = \frac{1}{e^{2s}(s^3 + 2s^2 + 6s)}$

Solution:

This is similar to the last question with heavyside step function $h(t-2)$. Hence we must compute

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s^3 + 2s^2 + 6s}\right) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s(s^2 + 2s + 6)}\right)$$

Now

$$\frac{1}{s(s^2 + 2s + 6)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{Bs + C}{s^2 + 2s + 6} = \frac{A(s^2 + 2s + 6) + (Bs + C)s}{s(s^2 + 2s + 6)}.$$

Therefore $1 = s^2(A + B) + s(2A + C) + 6A$ which implies

$$A = \frac{1}{6}. A + B = 0 \Rightarrow B = -\frac{1}{6}. 2A + C = 0 \Rightarrow C = -\frac{1}{3}.$$

Hence we are finding

$$\frac{1}{6}\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s} + \frac{-s - 2}{s^2 + 2s + 6}\right)$$

Completing the square on the last term yields

$$\frac{-s - 2}{(s + 1)^2 + 5} = -\frac{s + 1}{(s + 1)^2 + 5} - \frac{1}{(s + 1)^2 + 5}$$

Hence

$$\frac{1}{6}\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s} - \frac{s + 1}{(s + 1)^2 + 5} - \frac{1}{(s + 1)^2 + 5}\right) = \frac{1}{6}\left(1 - e^{-t} \cos \sqrt{5}t - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}e^{-t} \sin \sqrt{5}t\right)$$

Since this must be $f(t + 2)$ we have

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{6}\left(1 - e^{-(t-2)} \cos \sqrt{5}(t - 2) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}e^{-(t-2)} \sin \sqrt{5}(t - 2)\right)$$

Hence the inverse Laplace transform is

$$\frac{1}{6}h(t - 2)\left(1 - e^{-(t-2)} \cos \sqrt{5}(t - 2) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}e^{-(t-2)} \sin \sqrt{5}(t - 2)\right)$$

or

$$\begin{cases} 0 & t < 2 \\ \frac{1}{6}\left(1 - e^{-(t-2)} \cos \sqrt{5}(t - 2) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}e^{-(t-2)} \sin \sqrt{5}(t - 2)\right) & 2 \leq t \end{cases}$$

3. Is it possible for $F(s) = \frac{s(s^2 + 3s - 6)}{4s^3 - 3s + 10}$ to be the Laplace transform for a piecewise continuous function of exponential order.

Solution:

If the function has exponential order, then the Laplace transform exists as defined below.

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

If the integral exists, then the limit

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} F(s) = \int_0^{\infty} (0)f(t) dt = 0.$$

However our given function does not go to 0. Therefore it cannot be a Laplace transform.