

# Laplace Transformation

# Chapter 1

## The Laplace Transform

### DEFINITION OF THE LAPLACE TRANSFORM

Let  $F(t)$  be a function of  $t$  specified for  $t > 0$ . Then the Laplace transform of  $F(t)$ , denoted by  $\mathcal{L}\{F(t)\}$ , is defined by

$$\mathcal{L}\{F(t)\} = f(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} F(t) dt \quad (1)$$

where we assume at present that the parameter  $s$  is real. Later it will be found useful to consider  $s$  complex.

The Laplace transform of  $F(t)$  is said to exist if the integral (1) converges for some value of  $s$ ; otherwise it does not exist. For sufficient conditions under which the Laplace transform does exist, see Page 2.

### NOTATION

If a function of  $t$  is indicated in terms of a capital letter, such as  $F(t)$ ,  $G(t)$ ,  $Y(t)$ , etc., the Laplace transform of the function is denoted by the corresponding lower case letter, i.e.  $f(s)$ ,  $g(s)$ ,  $y(s)$ , etc. In other cases, a tilde ( $\sim$ ) can be used to denote the Laplace transform. Thus, for example, the Laplace transform of  $u(t)$  is  $\tilde{u}(s)$ .

### LAPLACE TRANSFORMS OF SOME ELEMENTARY FUNCTIONS

	$F(t)$	$\mathcal{L}\{F(t)\} = f(s)$
1.	1	$\frac{1}{s} \quad s > 0$
2.	$t$	$\frac{1}{s^2} \quad s > 0$
3.	$t^n$ $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$	$\frac{n!}{s^{n+1}} \quad s > 0$ Note. Factorial $n = n! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot n$ Also, by definition $0! = 1$ .
4.	$e^{at}$	$\frac{1}{s-a} \quad s > a$
5.	$\sin at$	$\frac{a}{s^2 + a^2} \quad s > 0$
6.	$\cos at$	$\frac{s}{s^2 + a^2} \quad s > 0$
7.	$\sinh at$	$\frac{a}{s^2 - a^2} \quad s >  a $
8.	$\cosh at$	$\frac{s}{s^2 - a^2} \quad s >  a $

The adjacent table shows Laplace transforms of various elementary functions. For details of evaluation using definition (1), see Problems 1 and 2. For a more extensive table see Appendix B, Pages 245 to 254.

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SOME IMPORTANT PROPERTIES OF LAPLACE TRANSFORMS

In the following list of theorems we assume, unless otherwise stated, that all functions satisfy the conditions of Theorem 1-1 so that their Laplace transforms exist.

1. Linearity property.

$\mathcal{L}\{c_1 f_1(t) + c_2 f_2(t)\} = c_1 \mathcal{L}\{f_1(t)\} + c_2 \mathcal{L}\{f_2(t)\}$   
 $f(t) \geq 0 \leq t \leq \infty$

**Theorem 1-2.** If  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are any constants while  $F_1(t)$  and  $F_2(t)$  are functions with Laplace transforms  $f_1(s)$  and  $f_2(s)$  respectively, then

$$\mathcal{L}\{c_1 F_1(t) + c_2 F_2(t)\} = c_1 \mathcal{L}\{F_1(t)\} + c_2 \mathcal{L}\{F_2(t)\} = c_1 f_1(s) + c_2 f_2(s) \quad (2)$$

The result is easily extended to more than two functions.

Example.  $\mathcal{L}\{4t^2 - 3 \cos 2t + 5e^{-t}\} = 4\mathcal{L}\{t^2\} - 3\mathcal{L}\{\cos 2t\} + 5\mathcal{L}\{e^{-t}\}$   
 $= 4\left(\frac{2!}{s^3}\right) - 3\left(\frac{s}{s^2+4}\right) + 5\left(\frac{1}{s+1}\right)$   
 $= \frac{8}{s^3} - \frac{3s}{s^2+4} + \frac{5}{s+1}$

The symbol  $\mathcal{L}$ , which transforms  $F(t)$  into  $f(s)$ , is often called the *Laplace transformation operator*. Because of the property of  $\mathcal{L}$  expressed in this theorem, we say that  $\mathcal{L}$  is a *linear operator* or that it has the *linearity property*.

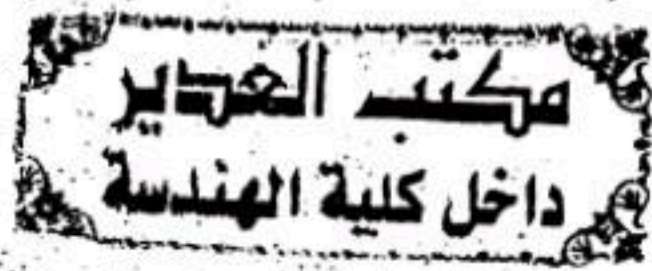
2. First translation or shifting property.

**Theorem 1-3.** If  $\mathcal{L}\{F(t)\} = f(s)$  then

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at} F(t)\} = f(s-a)$$

Example. Since  $\mathcal{L}\{\cos 2t\} = \frac{s}{s^2+4}$ , we have

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{-t} \cos 2t\} = \frac{s+1}{(s+1)^2+4} = \frac{s+1}{s^2+2s+5}$$



3. Second translation or shifting property.

**Theorem 1-4.** If  $\mathcal{L}\{F(t)\} = f(s)$  and  $G(t) = \begin{cases} F(t-a) & t > a \\ 0 & t < a \end{cases}$ , then

$$\mathcal{L}\{G(t)\} = e^{-as} f(s) \quad (4)$$

Example. Since  $\mathcal{L}\{t^3\} = \frac{3!}{s^4} = \frac{6}{s^4}$ , the Laplace transform of the function

$$G(t) = \begin{cases} (t-2)^3 & t > 2 \\ 0 & t < 2 \end{cases}$$

is  $6e^{-2s}/s^4$ .

4. Change of scale property.

**Theorem 1-5.** If  $\mathcal{L}\{F(t)\} = f(s)$ , then

$$\mathcal{L}\{F(at)\} = \frac{1}{a} f\left(\frac{s}{a}\right) \quad (5)$$

Example. Since  $\mathcal{L}\{\sin t\} = \frac{1}{s^2+1}$ , we have

$$\mathcal{L}\{\sin 3t\} = \frac{1}{3} \frac{1}{(s/3)^2+1} = \frac{3}{s^2+9}$$

5 > 8

(3) 15.1

Theorem (6)

Let  $f(t)$  be a continuous  $(n-1)$  derivatives,  $f'(t), f''(t), \dots, f^{(n-1)}(t)$  for all  $t \geq 0$  and assume that  $f, f', \dots, f^{(n-1)}$  have exponential order  $\alpha$ . If  $f^{(n)}$  is continuous in every interval  $[0, \infty)$  then  $L\{f^{(n)}\}$  exist for  $s > \alpha$  and

$$L\{f^{(n)}(t)\} = s^n L\{f(t)\} - s^{n-1} f(0) - s^{n-2} f'(0) - \dots - f^{(n-1)}(0)$$

Ex: Apply the last theorem with  $n=2$  to find  $L\{\sin bt\}$

$$L\{f''(t)\} = s^2 L\{f(t)\} - s f(0) - f'(0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(t) &= \sin bt & f'(t) &= b \cos bt \\ f''(t) &= -b^2 \sin bt & f(0) &= 0, f'(0) = b \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L\{-b^2 \sin bt\} &= s^2 L\{\sin bt\} - s(0) - b \\ -b^2 L\{\sin bt\} - s^2 L\{\sin bt\} &= -b \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L\{\sin bt\} (b^2 + s^2) &= b \\ L\{\sin bt\} &= \frac{b}{s^2 + b^2} \end{aligned}$$

H.w Find Laplace for the following functions?

- ①  $f(t) = \sin at \sin bt$
- ②  $f(t) = t^2 \cos bt$
- ③  $f(t) = t^3 e^{at}$
- ④  $f(t) = e^{at} t^2$

Other Method:-  
 ~~$L\{e^{at} f(t)\} = F(s-a)$~~

Theorem (7): Suppose that  $f(t)$  is a function which is continuous and of exponential order which has the Laplace transform

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

then

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^n f(t)\} = (-1)^n \frac{d^n}{ds^n} F(s)$$

Ex:

Find L.T. of  $(t^2 \sin bt)$ .

Since

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^n f(t)\} = (-1)^n \frac{d^n}{ds^n} F(s)$$

therefore

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^2 \sin bt\} = (-1)^2 \frac{d^2}{ds^2} F(s) \quad \text{where } F(s) \text{ is the L.T. of}$$

$$f(t) = \sin bt$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\sin bt\} = \frac{b}{s^2 + b^2}$$

$$\frac{d}{ds} F(s) = \frac{-2bs}{(s^2 + b^2)^2}$$

$$\frac{d^2}{ds^2} F(s) = \frac{-2b(s^2 + b^2)^2 + 8bs^2}{(s^2 + b^2)^4}$$

$$= \frac{(s^2 + b^2)[-2b(s^2 + b^2) + 8bs^2]}{(s^2 + b^2)^4} = \frac{6bs^2 - 2b^3}{(s^2 + b^2)^3}$$

$$\therefore \mathcal{L}\{t^2 \sin bt\} = \frac{6bs^2 - 2b^3}{(s^2 + b^2)^3}$$

# The Inverse of Laplace Transform -

Here we consider the inverse problems of L.T., if we have L.T.  $F(s)$  of a certain function  $f(t)$ . Then the problem is to find function  $f(t)$ .

We will use the notation  $L^{-1}\{F(s)\}$  to denote the inverse L.T. of  $f(t)$  and we write:

$$f(t) = L^{-1}\{F(s)\}$$

in order to find the L.T., we need the following table:-

$f(t) = L^{-1}\{F(s)\}$	$F(s) = L\{f(t)\}$
1	$1/s$
$e^{at}$	$1/(s-a)$
$\sin bt$	$b/(s^2+b^2)$
$\cos bt$	$s/(s^2+b^2)$
$\sinh bt$	$b/(s^2-b^2)$
$\cosh bt$	$s^2/(s^2-b^2)$
$t^n$	$n! / s^{n+1}$
$t \sin bt$	$2bs / (s^2+b^2)^2$
$t \cos bt$	$(s^2-b^2) / (s^2+b^2)^2$
$t^n e^{at}$	$n! / (s-a)^{n+1}$
$e^{-at} \sin bt$	$b / [(s+a)^2+b^2]$
$e^{-at} \cos bt$	$(s+a) / [(s+a)^2+b^2]$
$\frac{\sin bt - bt \cos bt}{2b^3}$	$1 / (s^2+b^2)^2$
$\frac{t \sin bt}{2b}$	$s / (s^2+b^2)^2$