

Laplace Transform

A transform is an operation that changes a function into a new function.

→ Examples of this are derivatives and antiderivatives.

→ These are linear transforms:

$$\int (\alpha f(x) + \beta g(x)) dx = \alpha \int f(x) dx + \beta \int g(x) dx$$

Def. Let $f(t)$ be defined for $t \geq 0$, then

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

is called the Laplace Transform of f .

*** $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$

Ex. Find $\mathcal{L}\{1\}$. $= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} \cdot 1 dt$

$$= \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^R e^{-st} dt = \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \left. \frac{1}{-s} e^{-st} \right|_0^R$$

$$= \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{-s} e^{-sR} + \frac{1}{s} e^{-s \cdot 0} = \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{s e^{sR}} + \frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{s}$$

$$\boxed{s > 0}$$

Find the domain.

Ex. Find $\mathcal{L}\{t\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} \cdot t dt$

$u = t \quad dv = e^{-st} dt$
 $du = dt \quad v = \frac{1}{-s} e^{-st}$

$$= \frac{t}{-s} e^{-st} - \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{-s} e^{-st} dt$$

$$= \frac{t}{-s} e^{-st} + \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{-s} e^{-st} \Big|_0^{\infty}$$

$$= \frac{t}{-s e^{st}} - \frac{1}{s^2 e^{st}} \Big|_0^{\infty}$$

$$= \left(\frac{\infty}{-s e^{s \cdot \infty}} - \frac{1}{s^2 e^{s \cdot \infty}} \right) - \left(\frac{0}{-s e^{s \cdot 0}} - \frac{1}{s^2 e^{s \cdot 0}} \right)$$

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

Ex. Find $\mathcal{L}\{e^{-3t}\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} \cdot e^{-3t} dt = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t(s+3)} dt$

$$= \frac{1}{-(s+3)} e^{-t(s+3)} \Big|_0^{\infty}$$

$$= \frac{1}{-(s+3) e^{\infty(s+3)}} - \frac{1}{-(s+3) e^{0(s+3)}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{s+3}, \quad s > -3$$

Some basic transforms are on p. 277

→ \mathcal{L} is linear

Ex. Find $\mathcal{L}\{1 + 5t\}$.

$$\begin{aligned} &= \mathcal{L}\{1\} + \mathcal{L}\{5t\} \\ &= \mathcal{L}\{1\} + 5\mathcal{L}\{t\} \\ &= \frac{1}{s} + \frac{5}{s^2} \end{aligned}$$

A function f is of exponential order c if there exist constants c , $M > 0$, and $T > 0$ such that $|f(t)| < Me^{ct}$ for all $t > T$.

Thm. If f is a piecewise continuous function on $[0, \infty)$ and of exponential order c , then $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$ exists for $s > c$.

→ This is not a requirement for the existence of \mathcal{L} , others also have an \mathcal{L} .

Thm. If f is piecewise continuous on $(0, \infty)$
and of exponential order, and if
 $F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$, then $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} F(s) = 0$

$$F(s) = s + 2$$

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Ex. Find $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$, where $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & 0 \leq t \leq 3 \\ 2 & t > 3 \end{cases}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}\{f\} &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt = \int_0^3 e^{-st} \cdot 0 dt + \int_3^{\infty} e^{-st} \cdot 2 dt \\ &= \frac{2}{-s} e^{-st} \Big|_3^{\infty} = \frac{2}{-s e^{s \cdot \infty}} - \frac{2}{-s e^{s \cdot 3}} = \boxed{\frac{2}{s e^{3s}}} \end{aligned}$$