

CHAPTER 1: LAPLACE TRANSFORM

1.1 DEFINITION AND BASIC PROPERTIES OF LAPLACE TRANSFORM

DEFINITION 1. $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. The Laplace transform of f is the function defined by:
$$F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}(s) := \int_0^{+\infty} f(t) e^{-st} dt \quad \blacksquare$$

REMARK

- a) For the original functions \rightarrow lower letters
for the corresponding LT \rightarrow capital letters
- b) Control systems: domain of original functions \rightarrow TIME DOMAIN (t)
domain of LT \rightarrow FREQUENCY DOMAIN (s)
- c) The def of LT involves only the values of f for $t \geq 0 \Rightarrow$ we can always suppose w.l.o.g. that $f(t) = 0$ for $t < 0$
- d) Computing indefinite integrals

$$\int_0^{+\infty} a(t) dt = \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} A(t) \Big|_0^T = \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} [A(T) - A(0)]$$

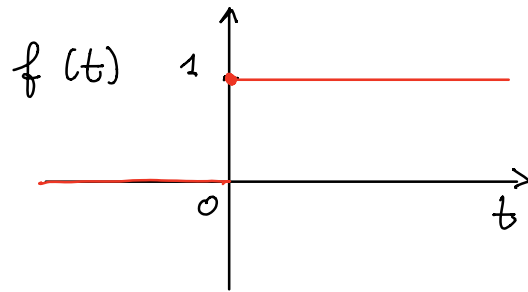
$$A'(t) = a(t)$$

$A(t)$ is an antiderivative of $a(t)$

EXAMPLES

1) Heaviside Function

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & t \geq 0 \\ 0 & t < 0 \end{cases}$$



→ signal that switches on at $t = 0$

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}(s) = \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-st} \cdot 1 \, dt = \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \left(\frac{e^{-st}}{-s} \right) \Big|_0^T$$
$$= \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \left(\frac{e^{-sT} - 1}{-s} \right) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{s} & \text{if } s > 0 \\ +\infty & \text{if } s \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

• If $s = 0 \Rightarrow \int_0^{+\infty} dt = \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} T = +\infty$

• If $s < 0 \Rightarrow -sT > 0 \Rightarrow \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} -sT = +\infty$

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

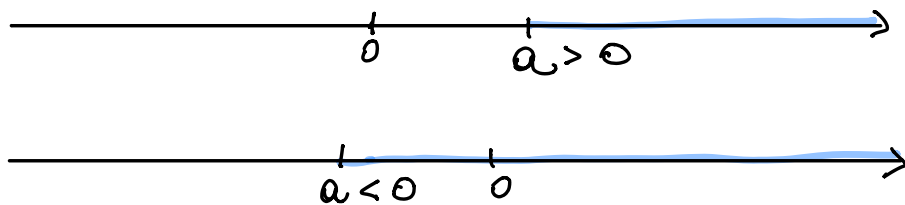
• If $s > 0 \Rightarrow \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} -sT = -\infty \Rightarrow \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} e^{-sT} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \left(\frac{e^{-sT} - 1}{-s} \right) = \left(\frac{-1}{-s} \right) = \frac{1}{s} \quad \blacksquare$$

2) Exponential Function

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} e^{at} & a \in \mathbb{R} \quad t \geq 0 \\ 0 & t < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}(s) &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{at} \cdot e^{-st} dt \\ &= \frac{e^{(a-s)t}}{(a-s)} \Big|_0^{\infty} = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{e^{(a-s)T} - 1}{a-s} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} +\infty & \text{if } s \leq a \\ \frac{1}{s-a} & \text{if } s > a \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$



In the case $a < 0$ the domain of definition of the Laplace transform contains the half line $[0, +\infty)$

3) Power Functions

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} t^n & t \geq 0 \\ 0 & t < 0 \end{cases} \quad \boxed{n \geq 1}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^n\}(s) = \int_0^{+\infty} t^n e^{-st} dt = \frac{t^n e^{-st}}{-s} \Big|_0^{+\infty} + \int_0^{+\infty} n t^{n-1} e^{-st} dt$$

$$= \lim_{T \rightarrow +\infty} \left(\frac{T^n e^{-sT} - 0}{-s} \right) + \frac{n}{s} \int_0^{+\infty} t^{n-1} e^{-st} dt$$

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⊗ exists limit $\Leftrightarrow s > 0$ and ⊗ = 0

$$= \frac{n}{s} \text{⊗⊗} = \frac{n}{s} \mathcal{L}\{t^{n-1}\} = \frac{n}{s}$$

$$= \frac{n}{s} \cdot \frac{n-1}{s} \cdot \frac{n-2}{s} \cdots \frac{n-(n-1)}{s} \mathcal{L}\{t^0\}$$

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

These computations hold

$$\Leftrightarrow s > 0$$

BASIC PROPERTIES

a) Linearity

$$f, g, \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\alpha f(t) + \beta g(t)\} = \alpha \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} + \beta \mathcal{L}\{g(t)\}$$

"Proof"

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}\{\alpha f(t) + \beta g(t)\}(s) &= \int_0^{+\infty} (\alpha f(t) + \beta g(t)) e^{-st} dt \\ &= \alpha \int_0^{+\infty} f(t) e^{-st} dt + \beta \int_0^{+\infty} g(t) e^{-st} dt \\ &= \alpha \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}(s) + \beta \mathcal{L}\{g(t)\}(s) \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLES

$$1) f(t) = 2t^2 - 8$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}(s) &= 2 \mathcal{L}\{t^2\}(s) - 8 \mathcal{L}\{1\}(s) \\ &= 2 \frac{2!}{s^3} - 8 \frac{1}{s} = \frac{4}{s^3} - \frac{8}{s} \end{aligned}$$

$$2) f(t) = \sinh(t) = \frac{1}{2} (e^t - e^{-t})$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\sinh(t)\}(s) = \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\mathcal{L}\{e^t\}(s)}_{\alpha=1} - \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\mathcal{L}\{e^{-t}\}(s)}_{\alpha=-1}$$

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

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

NOTE : $\mathcal{L}\{e^{t}\}$ exists for $s > 1$
 $\mathcal{L}\{e^{-t}\}$ exists for $s > -1$

\Rightarrow We have to take the intersection of the two sets : $s > 1$

NOTE : $\mathcal{L}\{f(t) \cdot g(t)\} \neq \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} \cdot \mathcal{L}\{g(t)\}$

Take $f = g = 1$

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

b) EXISTENCE

Conditions on a function $f(t)$ that guarantee that its LT exists for at least large values of s .

DEFINITION 2

A function $f(t)$ is called of exponential order (with constant $c \geq 0$) if

$$|f(t)| \leq M e^{ct} \quad \forall t \geq 0$$

EXponential GROWTH CONDITION $M > 0$

EXAMPLES

1) Every bounded function is of exponential order

$$f(t) = 1, \quad f(t) = \cos(at), \quad f(t) = \sin(at)$$

$$a \in \mathbb{R}.$$

EXERCISE $\mathcal{L}\{\cos(at)\}(s) = \frac{s}{s^2 + a^2}$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\sin(at)\}(s) = \frac{a}{s^2 + a^2}$$

2) $f(t) = t^n \quad n \geq 1$ is of exponential order

$$e^t = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^n}{n!} \Rightarrow \forall t \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{t^m}{m!} \leq e^t$$

$$\Rightarrow t^m \leq m! e^t \quad t \geq 0 \quad (C=1, M=m!)$$

THEOREM

(see Remark 2.6 in Tozzi's NOTES)
 If $f(t)$ is piecewise continuous
 and of exponential order with
 constant $C \geq 0$, then $F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$
 exists and it is finite for $\boxed{s > C}$

"Proof"

By hyp. $|f(t)| \leq M e^{ct}$

$$|\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}(s)| = \left| \int_0^{+\infty} f(t) e^{-st} dt \right|$$

$$\leq \int_0^{+\infty} |f(t)| e^{-st} dt$$

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

$$\leq \int_0^{+\infty} M e^{ct} e^{-st} dt = \frac{M}{s-C}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \underbrace{s > C}$$

$$|\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}(s)| \leq \frac{M}{s-C} \quad s > C$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{s \rightarrow +\infty} |F(s)| = 0 \quad \blacksquare$$

Table of Laplace Transforms

$f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\}$	$F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$	$f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\}$	$F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$
1. 1	$\frac{1}{s}$	2. e^{at}	$\frac{1}{s-a}$
3. $t^n, n=1,2,3,\dots$	$\frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$	4. $t^p, p > -1$	$\frac{\Gamma(p+1)}{s^{p+1}}$
5. \sqrt{t}	$\frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2s^{\frac{3}{2}}}$	6. $t^{n-\frac{1}{2}}, n=1,2,3,\dots$	$\frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n-1)\sqrt{\pi}}{2^n s^{n+\frac{1}{2}}}$
7. $\sin(at)$	$\frac{a}{s^2+a^2}$	8. $\cos(at)$	$\frac{s}{s^2+a^2}$
9. $t \sin(at)$	$\frac{2as}{(s^2+a^2)^2}$	10. $t \cos(at)$	$\frac{s^2-a^2}{(s^2+a^2)^2}$
11. $\sin(at) - at \cos(at)$	$\frac{2a^3}{(s^2+a^2)^2}$	12. $\sin(at) + at \cos(at)$	$\frac{2as^2}{(s^2+a^2)^2}$
13. $\cos(at) - at \sin(at)$	$\frac{s(s^2-a^2)}{(s^2+a^2)^2}$	14. $\cos(at) + at \sin(at)$	$\frac{s(s^2+3a^2)}{(s^2+a^2)^2}$
15. $\sin(at+b)$	$\frac{s \sin(b) + a \cos(b)}{s^2+a^2}$	16. $\cos(at+b)$	$\frac{s \cos(b) - a \sin(b)}{s^2+a^2}$
17. $\sinh(at)$	$\frac{a}{s^2-a^2}$	18. $\cosh(at)$	$\frac{s}{s^2-a^2}$
19. $e^{at} \sin(bt)$	$\frac{b}{(s-a)^2+b^2}$	20. $e^{at} \cos(bt)$	$\frac{s-a}{(s-a)^2+b^2}$
21. $e^{at} \sinh(bt)$	$\frac{b}{(s-a)^2-b^2}$	22. $e^{at} \cosh(bt)$	$\frac{s-a}{(s-a)^2-b^2}$
23. $t^n e^{at}, n=1,2,3,\dots$	$\frac{n!}{(s-a)^{n+1}}$	24. $f(ct)$	$\frac{1}{c} F\left(\frac{s}{c}\right)$
25. $u_c(t) = u(t-c)$ Heaviside Function	$\frac{e^{-cs}}{s}$	26. $\delta(t-c)$ Dirac Delta Function	e^{-cs}
27. $u_c(t) f(t-c)$	$e^{-cs} F(s)$	28. $u_c(t) g(t)$	$e^{-cs} \mathcal{L}\{g(t+c)\}$
29. $e^{ct} f(t)$	$F(s-c)$	30. $t^n f(t), n=1,2,3,\dots$	$(-1)^n F^{(n)}(s)$
31. $\frac{1}{t} f(t)$	$\int_s^\infty F(u) du$	32. $\int_0^t f(v) dv$	$\frac{F(s)}{s}$
33. $\int_0^t f(t-\tau) g(\tau) d\tau$	$F(s)G(s)$	34. $f(t+T) = f(t)$	$\frac{\int_0^T e^{-st} f(t) dt}{1-e^{-sT}}$
35. $f'(t)$	$sF(s) - f(0)$	36. $f''(t)$	$s^2 F(s) - sf(0) - f'(0)$
37. $f^{(n)}(t)$	$s^n F(s) - s^{n-1} f(0) - s^{n-2} f'(0) - \dots - sf^{(n-2)}(0) - f^{(n-1)}(0)$		