

5.2 Basic properties of LT

We will use lower-case letters for functions and upper-case letters for their LTs

$$\mathcal{L}\{y\} = Y, \quad \mathcal{L}\{f\} = F, \quad \mathcal{L}\{g\} = G, \quad \text{and etc.}$$

We assume that all functions below and their derivatives are of exponential order.

LT of derivatives

Theorem 1 Suppose y is a piecewise differentiable function. Then for large values of s

$$\mathcal{L}\{y'\}(s) = sY(s) - y(0)$$

In general,

$$\mathcal{L}\{y^{(k)}\}(s) = s^k Y(s) - s^{k-1}y(0) - \dots - s^2 y^{(k-3)}(0) - s y^{(k-2)}(0) - y^{(k-1)}(0)$$

Linearity of LT:

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

Example 1 Transform the IVP $y' - 3y = e^{2t}$, $y(0) = 1$

and solve the resulting equation for LT.

Solution: LT of the left hand side is $L[y' - 3y] = [\text{by linearity}] = L[y'] - 3L[y]$
 $= [\text{by Theorem}] = sY(s) - y(0) - 3Y(s) = (s - 3)Y(s) - 1.$

LT of the right hand side is $\mathcal{L}\{e^{2t}\}(s) = \frac{1}{s - 2}$

$$\text{Hence } (s - 3)Y(s) - 1 = \frac{1}{s - 2} \Rightarrow Y(s) = \frac{1}{s - 3} + \frac{1}{(s - 2)(s - 3)} = \frac{s - 1}{(s - 2)(s - 3)}$$

Translation

Proposition 1 (The First Translation Formula)

Assume $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a piecewise continuous function of exponential order and $c \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{ct}f(t)\}(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}(s - c) = F(s - c). \quad (\text{First Translation Formula})$$

Heaviside function (Unit step function): $H(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{for } t < 0 \\ 1, & \text{for } t \geq 0 \end{cases}$

The Second Translation Formula:

$$\mathcal{L}\{H(t - a)f(t - a)\} = e^{-as}F(s) \quad a > 0$$

The derivative of LT

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^n f(t)\}(s) = (-1)^n F^{(n)}(s) \quad (\text{derivative of Laplace Transform})$$

In particular,

$$\mathcal{L}\{t f(t)\}(s) = -F'(s)$$

Example 2 Find LT of $t^2 e^{5t}$.

$$\text{Solution: } F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{e^{5t}\}(s) = \frac{1}{s-5} \Rightarrow L[t^2 e^{5t}] = (-1)^2 F''(s).$$

$$F'(s) = -(s-5)^{-2}, \quad F''(s) = 2(s-5)^{-3} \Rightarrow L[t^2 e^{5t}] = \frac{2}{(s-5)^3}.$$

We also can apply the first translation formula:

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^2\}(s) = \frac{2}{s^3}, \quad \mathcal{L}\{t^2 e^{5t}\} = \mathcal{L}\{e^{5t} t^2\}(s) = \mathcal{L}\{t^2\}(s-5) = \frac{2}{(s-5)^3}.$$

Example: Find LT of $g(t) = e^{-2t} \cos 4t$.

Solution: By the first translation formula

$$G(s) = \mathcal{L}\{e^{-2t} \cos 4t\}(s) = \mathcal{L}\{\cos 4t\}(s+2) = \frac{s+2}{(s+2)^2 + 16}.$$

- **Exercise #4 page 201.** Use the linearity of the Laplace transform to find the Laplace transform of the function

$$y(t) = 3 - 5t - 11t^3.$$

Solution: For $t > 0$ we have

$$\mathcal{L}\{y(t)\}(s) = \mathcal{L}\{3 - 5t - 11t^3\}(s) = 3\mathcal{L}\{1\}(s) - 5\mathcal{L}\{t\}(s) - 11\mathcal{L}\{t^3\}(s) = 3\frac{1}{s} - 5\frac{1!}{s^2} - 11\frac{3!}{s^4},$$

where $s > 0$.

- **Exercise #6 page 201.** Use the linearity of the Laplace transform to find the Laplace transform of the function

$$y(t) = 2 \sin 3t + 3 \cos 5t$$

Solution: For $t > 0$ we have

$$\mathcal{L}\{y(t)\}(s) = \mathcal{L}\{2 \sin 3t + 3 \cos 5t\}(s) = 2\mathcal{L}\{\sin 3t\}(s) + 3\mathcal{L}\{\cos 5t\}(s) = 2\frac{3}{s^2 + 9} + 3\frac{s}{s^2 + 25},$$

where $s > 0$.

- **Exercise #22 page 202.** Transform the given initial value problem into an algebraic equation involving $\mathcal{L}(y) \equiv Y$. Solve the resulting equation for the Laplace transform of y .

$$y'' + y = \sin 4t, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 1.$$

Solution: Applying the Laplace transform to the differential equation we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} s^2 Y - sy(0) - y'(0) + Y &= \frac{4}{s^2 + 16}, & (1 + s^2)Y &= 1 + \frac{4}{s^2 + 16}, \\ Y(s) &= \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} + 4 \frac{1}{(s^2 + 16)(s^2 + 1)} = \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} + \frac{4}{15} \left(\frac{1}{s^2 + 1} - \frac{1}{s^2 + 16} \right) \\ &= \frac{19}{15} \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} - \frac{4}{15} \frac{1}{s^2 + 16} = \mathcal{L} \left\{ \frac{19}{15} \sin t - \frac{1}{15} \sin 4t \right\} (s). \end{aligned}$$

- **Exercise #27 page 201.** Use the (First Translation Formula) to find the Laplace transform of the function

$$y(t) = e^{2t} \cos 2t$$

Solution: For $t > 0$ we have, using (First Translation Formula) with $c = 2$, and $f(t) = \cos 2t$ we have

$$F(s) = \frac{s}{s^2 + 4}, \quad Y(s) = F(s - c) \equiv \frac{s - 2}{(s - 2)^2 + 4}.$$

- **Exercise #28 page 202.** Use the (First Translation Formula) to find the Laplace transform of the function

$$y(t) = e^{-2t}(2t + 3)$$

Solution: For $t > 0$ we have, using (First Translation Formula) with $c = -2$, and $f(t) = 2t + 3$ we have

$$F(s) = 2 \frac{1!}{s^2} + 3 \frac{1}{s} \equiv \frac{2 + 3s}{s^2}, \quad Y(s) = F(s - c) \equiv \frac{2 + 3(s + 2)}{(s + 2)^2} = \frac{3s + 8}{(s + 2)^2}.$$

- **Exercise #30 page 202.** Use the (derivative of Laplace Transform) formula to find the Laplace transform of the function

$$y(t) = t \sin 3t$$

Solution: For $t > 0$ we have, using (derivative of Laplace Transform) formula with $n = 1$, and $f(t) = \sin 3t$ we have

$$F(s) = \frac{3}{s^2 + 9}, \quad Y(s) = (-1)^n F^{(n)}(s) \equiv - \left(\frac{3}{s^2 + 9} \right)' = \frac{3 \cdot 2s}{(s^2 + 9)^2} = \frac{6s}{(s^2 + 9)^2}.$$

- **Exercise #31 page 202.** Use the (derivative of Laplace Transform) formula to find the Laplace transform of the function

$$y(t) = te^{-t}$$

Solution: For $t > 0$ we have, using (derivative of Laplace Transform) formula with $n = 1$, and $f(t) = e^{-t}$ we have

$$F(s) = \frac{1}{s+1},$$

$$Y(s) = (-1)^n F^{(n)}(s) \equiv -\left(\frac{1}{s+1}\right)' = \frac{1}{(s+1)^2}.$$

- **Exercise #32 page 202.** Use the (derivative of Laplace Transform) formula to find the Laplace transform of the function

$$y(t) = t^2 \cos 2t$$

Solution: For $t > 0$ we have, using (derivative of Laplace Transform) formula with $n = 2$, and $f(t) = \cos 2t$ we have

$$F(s) = \frac{s}{s^2+4},$$

$$Y(s) = (-1)^n F^{(n)}(s) \equiv \left(\frac{s}{s^2+4}\right)'' = \left(\frac{s^2+4-2s^2}{(s^2+4)^2}\right)' = \left(\frac{4-s^2}{(s^2+4)^2}\right)'$$

$$= \frac{-2s \cdot (s^2+4)^2 - (4-s^2) \cdot 2 \cdot 2s \cdot (s^2+4)}{(s^2+4)^3} = \frac{-2s \cdot (s^2+4) - (4-s^2) \cdot 2 \cdot 2s}{(s^2+4)^2}$$

$$= \frac{-2s^3 - 8s - 16s + 4s^3}{(s^2+4)^2} = \frac{2s^3 - 24s}{(s^2+4)^2}.$$

- **Exercise #33 page 202.** Use the (derivative of Laplace Transform) formula to find the Laplace transform of the function

$$y(t) = t^2 e^{2t}$$

Solution: For $t > 0$ we have, using (derivative of Laplace Transform) formula with $n = 2$, and $f(t) = e^{2t}$ we have

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

$$Y(s) = (-1)^n F^{(n)}(s) \equiv \left(\frac{1}{s-2}\right)'' = \frac{2}{(s-2)^3}.$$

- **Exercise #34 page 202.** Transform the initial value problem

$$y' + 2y = t \sin t, \quad y(0) = 1$$

into an algebraic equation involving $Y = \mathcal{L}\{y\}$. Solve the resulting equation for the Laplace transform of y .

Solution: For $t > 0$, using (derivative of Laplace Transform) with $f(t) = \sin t$, $F(s) = \frac{1}{s^2+1}$, $F'(s) = -\frac{2s}{(s^2+1)^2}$, and $n = 1$ we have

$$(sY - y(0)) + 2Y = \mathcal{L}\{t \sin t\}(s),$$

$$(s + 2)Y - 1 = (-1)^1 F'(s) \equiv \frac{2s}{(s^2 + 1)^2},$$

$$(s + 2)Y = 1 + \frac{2s}{(s^2 + 1)^2},$$

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