

## Section 7.1: The Laplace Transform

**Definition:** Let  $f(t)$  be defined on  $[0, \infty)$ . The Laplace transform of  $f$  is denoted and defined by

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

The domain of the transformation  $F(s)$  is the set of all  $s$  such that the integral is convergent.

# The Laplace Transform is a Linear Transformation

Some basic results include:

- ▶  $\mathcal{L}\{\alpha f(t) + \beta g(t)\} = \alpha F(s) + \beta G(s)$
- ▶  $\mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{s}, \quad s > 0$
- ▶  $\mathcal{L}\{t^n\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}, \quad s > 0 \text{ for } n = 1, 2, \dots$
- ▶  $\mathcal{L}\{e^{at}\} = \frac{1}{s-a}, \quad s > a$
- ▶  $\mathcal{L}\{\cos kt\} = \frac{s}{s^2+k^2}, \quad s > 0$
- ▶  $\mathcal{L}\{\sin kt\} = \frac{k}{s^2+k^2}, \quad s > 0$

## Use the Table to Evaluate $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$

(d)  $f(t) = \sin^2 5t$

Recall

$$\sin^2 \theta = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \cos 2\theta$$

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \cos(10t)$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \cos(10t)\right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}\{1\} - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}\{\cos(10t)\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{s}{s^2 + 10^2} = \frac{1}{2s} - \frac{s}{2(s^2 + 100)}, \quad s > 0$$

# Hyperbolic Sine and Cosine

Define the hyperbolic sine and cosine functions

$$\sinh(t) = \frac{e^t - e^{-t}}{2}, \quad \text{and} \quad \cosh(t) = \frac{e^t + e^{-t}}{2}, \quad \text{respectively.}$$

Find the Laplace transforms of  $\sinh t$  and  $\cosh t$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{\sinh(t)\} &= \mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{1}{2}e^t - \frac{1}{2}e^{-t}\right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}\{e^t\} - \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}\{e^{-t}\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{s-1} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{s-(-1)} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{s-1} - \frac{1}{s+1} \right) \\ &\qquad\qquad\qquad s > 1 \qquad\qquad\qquad s > -1\end{aligned}$$

for  $s > 1$

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

$$\mathcal{L}\{\cosh t\} = \mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{1}{2}e^t + \frac{1}{2}e^{-t}\right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{s-1} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{s+1} \quad s > 1$$

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

$$\mathcal{L}\{\sinh t\} = \frac{1}{s^2 - 1}, \quad s > 1$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\cosh t\} = \frac{s}{s^2 - 1}, \quad s > 1$$

# Sufficient Conditions for Existence of $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$

**Definition:** Let  $c > 0$ . A function  $f$  defined on  $[0, \infty)$  is said to be of *exponential order  $c$*  provided there exists positive constants  $M$  and  $T$  such that  $|f(t)| < Me^{ct}$  for all  $t > T$ .

**Definition:** A function  $f$  is said to be *piecewise continuous* on an interval  $[a, b]$  if  $f$  has at most finitely many jump discontinuities on  $[a, b]$  and is continuous between each such jump.

# Sufficient Conditions for Existence of $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$

**Theorem:** If  $f$  is piecewise continuous on  $[0, \infty)$  and of exponential order  $c$  for some  $c > 0$ , then  $f$  has a Laplace transform for  $s > c$ .

some functions don't have Laplace transforms

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{t}.$$



## Section 7.2: Inverse Transforms and Derivatives

Now we wish to go *backwards*: Given  $F(s)$  can we find a function  $f(t)$  such that  $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ ?

If so, we'll use the following notation

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

We'll call  $f(t)$  the **inverse Laplace transform** of  $F(s)$ .

# A Table of Inverse Laplace Transforms

- ▶  $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s} \right\} = 1$
- ▶  $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}} \right\} = t^n$ , for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$
- ▶  $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s-a} \right\} = e^{at}$
- ▶  $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2+k^2} \right\} = \cos kt$
- ▶  $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{k}{s^2+k^2} \right\} = \sin kt$

The inverse Laplace transform is also linear so that

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \{ \alpha F(s) + \beta G(s) \} = \alpha f(t) + \beta g(t)$$

## Find the Inverse Laplace Transform

When using the table, we have to match the expression inside the brackets  $\{ \}$  **EXACTLY!** Algebra, including partial fraction decomposition, is often needed.

$$(a) \quad \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^7} \right\}$$

From the table

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{6!}{s^7} \right\} = t^6$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Note} \quad \frac{1}{s^7} &= \frac{1}{6!} \frac{6!}{s^7} & \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^7} \right\} &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{6!} \frac{6!}{s^7} \right\} \\ & & &= \frac{1}{6!} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{6!}{s^7} \right\} = \frac{1}{6!} t^6 \end{aligned}$$

## Example: Evaluate

$$(b) \quad \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s+1}{s^2+9} \right\} = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2+9} + \frac{1}{s^2+9} \right\}$$

$$= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2+9} \right\} + \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2+9} \right\}$$

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

$$= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2+3^2} \right\} + \frac{1}{3} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{3}{s^2+3^2} \right\} = \cos 3t + \frac{1}{3} \sin 3t$$